

Breaking the back of barebacking
Questions raised over city's 11-point
action plan for HIV prevention.

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A first for lesbians
National lesbian cancer conference
in Washington, D.C. next month.

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Fall into the arts
Season preview: film,
theatre, music, more.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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HIV indicator axed from DPH data

by Katie Szymanski

The male rectal gonorrhea rates for July have been omitted from the Department of Public Health's monthly sexually transmitted disease report, despite the fact that these rates were just used as evidence of an HIV surge in San Francisco.

Talk about bad timing.

A couple of weeks ago, when DPH representatives appeared before the Board of Supervisors Finance Committee to justify how they ascertained the original estimate of 900 new HIV cases in San Francisco, the public learned that in fact, there was no exact explanation. Infection rates are determined, according to DPH Director Dr. Mitchell Katz, when a panel of experts get together, then "sit around and decide" what the likely numbers are, based on data known as HIV indicators. The "900 number," as it has come to be known, may have represented a high estimate for what is now believed to be around 600 cases (see story, page 16). Again these numbers are not determined from actual HIV test results, but derived from a determined surge in risky behavior according to a variety of studies.

These HIV indicator studies showed an increase of rectal gonorrhea among men who have sex with men, an increase of the population of men who have sex with men, and an increase of condomless sex among that population. Based on these HIV indicators, DPH has determined that HIV is exploding in San Francisco.

While actual numbers behind the studies were never offered during the public hearing, it's no secret that practices like "barebacking" have enjoyed a renewed popularity, so the idea that HIV cases may be up — if even by a handful of people — is not hard to believe.

What is difficult — if not extraordinary —

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Man killed by hit-and-run driver in the Castro

by Ed Walsh

A hit-and-run driver struck and killed a pedestrian in the Castro early Monday morning, August 28.

Barry Gumb, 31, was crossing Market Street at 16th when he was hit. Police said the driver, Jaswinder Singh, 26, ran away after the 12:45 a.m. accident but was later arrested. He was immediately charged with felony driving under the influence, felony hit-and-run, and with delaying an arrest.

Police said that Gumb was a San Francisco resident and lived on Roosevelt Way, just a few blocks from where he was hit. He fought for his life for 20 hours at San Francisco General Hospital. Gumb was pronounced dead at 9 p.m. Hospital spokeswoman Gloria Rodriguez told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he suffered major head injuries.

San Francisco Police spokesman, Jim Diegnan, said Singh fled on foot immediately after the accident but that his female passenger stayed in the car. Singh, who is from San Bruno, was arrested at the home of his passenger on 48th Avenue in the Sunset District four hours after the accident. Police said that he was hiding in a light well. Diegnan told the *B.A.R.* that Singh had a prior conviction for a misdemeanor DUI in 1994.

Police are investigating the incident and said that they are not sure whether Gumb was crossing against the light.

The intersection where Gumb was hit is across from the Metro Restaurant and Bar,



The intersection at Market, 16th, and Noe streets where Barry Gumb was hit and killed.

where 16th, Noe, and Market streets intersect. Metro bartender Ken Scott witnessed Gumb lying on Market Street just after the accident. He told the *B.A.R.* that he was saddened by what happened but not shocked.

"It's very dangerous. We see close calls there all the time," said Scott, adding that the bus and streetcar island on Market Street only adds to the pedestrian danger.

Dennis Troncatty was waiting tables at nearby Bagdad Café when the accident happened.

"Two nurses ran out of here to assist," said Troncatty, who echoed Scott's concern for pedestrian safety at the intersection.

For friends and family of Gumb, those concerns are backed with irreversible consequences. ▼

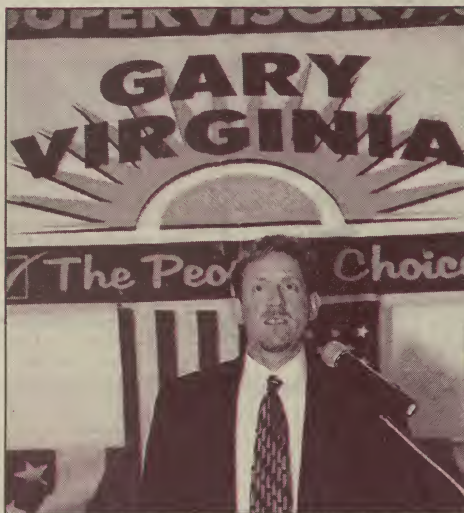
Underdog candidate has more support than we'll ever know Virginia is for lovers

by Katie Szymanski

There's one thing that already distinguishes Gary Virginia from the six candidates for supervisor in District 8: details. Virginia, with his background in financial and strategic planning, doesn't just use buzzwords like "affordable housing" and "preserving the neighborhood," he outlines his plans to accomplish these goals. But the underdog candidate hasn't been heard much in the race that has become the "Ammiano candidate" (Eileen Hansen) versus "the Brown appointee" (incumbent Mark Leno), and that fact alone is enough to tell him that something is wrong with city politics today.

"I don't want to replace a machine with another machine," Virginia told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "That's why I have chosen to run as an independent and not list my endorsements or accept soft money. That way I am beholden to no one."

Virginia has challenged his opponents to sign on to his "no soft money" pledge, and while he was reluctant to discuss his endorsements, a recent campaign fundraiser thanked supporters like activist Hank Wilson



District 8 supervisor candidate Gary Virginia pledges independence.

(supervisor candidate for District 6), Pride Committee Executive Director Teddy Witherington, and Survive AIDS member Michael Lauro, to name a few. Other public figures have privately endorsed him, but, because of

the "machine politics" of this town, remain anonymous due to fear of retribution.

"I would love to give you a comment," one such person told the *B.A.R.* "But I can't."

But the 40-year-old, 13-year resident of the Castro takes it all in stride, and while he is obviously fed up with the status quo, it is humor, not bitterness, that dominates his conversation.

"Many of my efforts have been futile," he laughed when speaking about his attempts to be recognized as a candidate. The District 8 Democratic Club, in its effort to endorse Leno, didn't even invite Virginia to the candidates' forum. The *Independent*, in an article about the District 8 race, ran full profiles on Hansen and Leno, "then called me to ask what my position was at Positive Resource Center, and hung up," said Virginia.

Virginia, a candidate with a progressive slant, is the former board president and a current board member of Positive Resource Center, the job and benefits counseling organization for people with HIV/AIDS. He serves on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender task force. He writes

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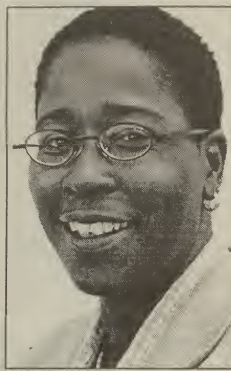
Toni Young hopes to bring the grassroots to Board of Education

by Cynthia Laird

It is her first race for public office, and although she is short on cash, A. Toni Young wants voters to know that she will bring change to the San Francisco Board of Education if elected in November.

Young, who previously served as a co-chair on the city's HIV Prevention Planning Council, said she has what it takes to be an effective voice on the school board, and she vowed to use her experience to help clean up the troubled district. "After the HPPC, it looked like a good challenge," Young told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The school board was and is pretty dysfunctional."

While on the HPPC, Young opposed a 1999 recommendation approved by the council that the city lift its restrictions on private spaces in commercial sex estab-



A. Toni Young

lishments. While the HPPC's non-binding recommendation to the Department of Public Health passed 9-7, Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz has refused to act on

it, as has the Health Commission.

The San Francisco Unified School District has been the subject of numerous reports detailing financial shortfalls and other problems. Just this week, the *San Francisco Examiner* reported that a computer software system designed by PeopleSoft that cost the district \$5 million isn't working and may have to be scrapped. The board must now decide whether to spend another \$400,000 just to see if the system can be salvaged.

Another hot-button issue is privatization of local schools. The district has one school, Edison, that is privately operated and has been the subject of conflicting reports involving teacher benefits, salaries, and other issues.

"I'm not in favor of privatization," Young said. "I think it sends the wrong message. I think it's the job of citizens and the community to fix public schools, and not to

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SF Grand Jury backs clubs over police on permit process

by Ed Walsh

South of Market after-hours nightclubs are getting a boost from the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury.

The panel issued an opinion last week urging that the club permit process be taken out of the hands of the San Francisco Police Department and backing the club owners' concerns they are being unfairly blamed for crime around the clubs.

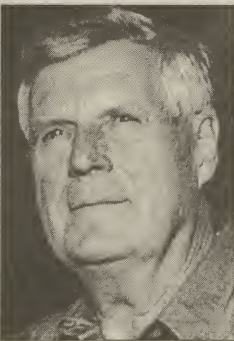
San Francisco Police Chief Fred Lau told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he strongly supports the Grand Jury's recommendation to take jurisdiction away from his department.

"I was one of the first ones to suggest the permit process go to an independent entity," said Lau, adding that he believes the change would help take away any perceived conflict of interest.

In its written report, the Grand Jury echoed Lau's concerns.

"While the desire of the police to reduce problems related to clubs is laudable, the role of the police is to protect the public and preserve the peace, not to set public policy on the hours that businesses are permitted to remain open," jurors wrote. "If elected officials make the legislative determination that after-hours clubs are detrimental to the public's health and welfare and should be eliminated, that is the proper function of that branch of government and not a proper function of law enforcement."

"The club owners interviewed by the Civil Grand Jury report frustration in their dealings with the police over the policing of permits because they do not know what standards they are being measured against or what requirements will next be instituted by a permit officer and a district cap-



The Endup's Carl Hanken

tain. As one owner put it, the police are constantly presenting club owners with a 'moving target' when it comes to permit conditions."

The Grand Jury also echoed complaints from club owners concerned about being held responsible for problems that are out of their control.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Damage control

Candidate explains past, focuses on future

by Katie Szymanski

Brenton Holland has nothing to hide. The candidate for supervisor in District 6 wants to make this clear, considering a recent allegation against him that he has covered up two felony convictions. Holland, the second candidate in the District 6 race to be found with a criminal record, contacted the *Bay Area Reporter* this week to explain what happened on the streets of Arizona on a fateful night in 1986.

According to court records, a vehicle driven by Holland, then 21, collided with another vehicle on a two-lane farm road near the city of Mesa. The two men in the other vehicle were killed. But the deceased men were not the only victims; Holland himself was in a coma for five days, and remained in the hospital for two more months. Records indicate that Holland sustained a bruised heart, fractured hip, and injuries to the pancreas, liver, and face.

When he woke, Holland could not explain why his car was in the other lane at the point of impact.

"We hit nose to nose," said Holland. "I was never ticketed for the accident, but I pleaded no contest to two counts of vehicular manslaughter because as a licensed driver, you have to always know your actions at all times."

"I don't know how my car got there or why it got there," he said. "But an accident's an accident, and I've been an upstanding citizen ever since."

Neither vehicle swerved to



Brenton Holland

avoid collision, and alcohol was determined not to be a factor in the crash. Holland received five years probation but was relieved of his sentence after three years.

For now, Holland would like to concentrate on the issues at hand, although he says it's still "too early" to endorse or oppose any ballot measure.

"Early endorsements have a way of coming back and slapping you in the face," he said. "The main thing to tell the voters is that I'm a very independent thinker. I'm not swayed by political action committees or activists."

The openly gay Holland, who works as the building manager at

Fox Plaza apartments, does not want to be bought "either by landlords or by tenants," he said. He has raised "not a dime" for his campaign (although a fundraiser is planned for September 13), and maintains that he understands supervisor issues simply by being in his current position.

"As a landlord of a 29-story building in the heart of the district, I encounter every possible dilemma that you would if you were on the Board of Supervisors. Homelessness, rents, capital improvements; I deal with these issues, and also deal with being a renter as well." (His Fox Plaza apartment is not free; Holland rents just like the rest of his tenants.)

Holland, who is 35, says he is running because "I think the board needs more people who are even thinkers. It also needs younger participants. I think it has a lot of gay representation, but I'd go way beyond gay interest."

Holland, who is also known for his ownership of Sweet's Restaurant and Bar in Guerneville, is a five-year resident of District 6 and a seven-year resident of San Francisco.

"I've got some fresh ideas on what San Francisco should be," he summarizes as his message. He encourages all those interested in working on his campaign to call him directly at (415) 431-6388.

The other District 6 candidate with a criminal background is Gilbert Criswell, who in 1989 was convicted of grand theft in connection with embezzling over \$12,000 from his former employer, the Easter Seals Society. ▼

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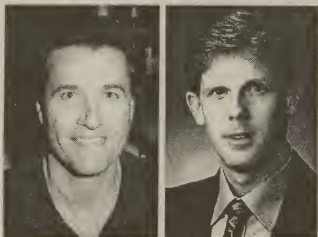
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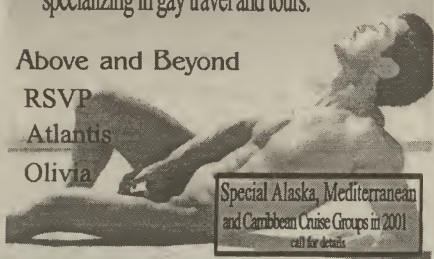
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MCC-SF's youth shelter to close today

by Terry Beswick

After just three months of operation, the Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco has unexpectedly announced that it will be closing the six-bed shelter for homeless gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth today (Thursday, August 31).

Dubbed "Matt's Place" after Matthew Shepard, the young Wyoming college student who was killed in an anti-gay attack in 1998, the shelter has been open since May 28, when another shelter at the now-defunct Golden Gate MCC in Noe Valley closed as previously planned.

"The young adults that sought refuge in our shelter deserve more than the space we are able to provide," MCC stated in an August 23 newsletter circulated by e-mail.

The statement made no mention of the young man who collapsed at the shelter last month and died a few days later at a local hospital, and in fact, MCC-SF's statement called the program a "success."

On the afternoon of July 6, 25-year-old Curtis Oliver Jr.'s life support systems were disconnected and he died shortly thereafter. The

young man had experienced a undisclosed medical emergency at the small shelter a few days earlier. Tawnee Walling, an MCC staff person, had reportedly attempted to resuscitate the young man, and had placed a call to 911 reporting that Oliver was having difficulty breathing and was "vomiting blood."

The church has refused to state whether or not Walling had received CPR training, and it is also not known whether Oliver ever regained consciousness after being transported by ambulance to Davies Medical Center.

The San Francisco Medical Examiner, which is conducting an investigation into the cause of Oliver's death, reported that Oliver's attending physician indicated that opiates may have contributed to the man's sudden illness.

Unlike the temporary shelter in Noe Valley, which was operated by the nonprofit Ark of Refuge under city contract, the MCC shelter was funded by MCC, and operated by its staff.

In creating a shelter with only six beds, the church was just under the legal limit which would have required a conditional use permit from the city Planning Department authorizing operation of a shelter.

The church's e-mail statement

reported that Elba Montes, who directed the "Matt's Place" project for the church, will now head up a task force that will "look for funding and an appropriate facility" to replace the shelter. "We will do our very best to find another way to make this happen before the winter rains come."

In the August 23 MCC-SF Update, the church claimed that the shelter would close "as originally scheduled." However, in several earlier communications with the *Bay Area Reporter*, and in reports published by other newspapers, the church had not announced that it would close at the end of the summer.

MCC-SF co-pastor Penny Nixon refused to return repeated calls from the *B.A.R.* seeking comment for this story.

"That's news to me," said Supervisor Mark Leno, when asked for a comment on the shelter's impending closure. Leno had visited the shelter a few times after it opened. "I'm not working on that in this moment."

The church at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro neighborhood has a largely gay and lesbian congregation, and has been a leading advocate for the establishment of an emergency drop-in shelter for queer youth in the Castro. ▼

Hearing postponed on Castro shelter

by Terry Beswick

The drama continues to unfold in the eye of the queer homeless youth hurricane known as the Castro, as a few neighbors of a planned transitional housing facility for queer youth put the brakes last week on the San Francisco Department of Public Health's efforts to obtain a conditional use permit from the Planning Department for the project at 2500 Market Street.

The shelter project was to be heard at the August 24 Planning

Commission meeting, but at the request of DPH, it was continued to September 7 at 1:30 p.m., to give all parties time to negotiate on several items pertaining to the project.

Castro residents, Supervisor Mark Leno, DPH staff, and representatives from the Ark of Refuge, which won the city contract to provide services at the site, have all been meeting in an effort to work out differences.

Gustavo Serina, a longtime vocal opponent of youth shelters in the Castro, said he was among those who met on August 22 and

23 with representatives of DPH and the Ark of Refuge, the contractor that was sole competitor to bid on establishing and running the facility.

"We covered things like the neighborhood's feeling that this should be an abstinence-based facility," Serina said, alluding to a requirement that the three- to six-month residents of the transitional housing program not use drugs either on or off the site.

"We wanted to see that in there, Serina said, adding that, "we're still going through a lot of issues."

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Jim Reid back in District 6 race

by Katie Szymanski

Jim Reid, a candidate for supervisor in District 6 who was disqualified from the race due to a lack of valid signatures on his petition, is back on the ballot as of August 25, according to the San Francisco Department of Elections.

Reid, whose plans include addressing homelessness through the construction of 100 square

foot cubicle apartments, was temporarily ousted from the race when it was discovered that many of the people who signed petitions for his candidacy did not have valid addresses. That's because they were homeless.

Reid protested his disqualification in court by proving that the signatures on his petition belonged to actual registered voters, a process he called "quite an experience."

"I learned a lot," Reid told the

Bay Area Reporter. "I'm now ready to teach future candidates how to validate their signatures if they run into a similar problem."

The next public display of Reid's "Habitat for the Homeless" cubicle program will be on Wednesday, September 20 at the Civic Center. The showing will be accompanied by a rally to support Reid's proposed ballot measure for next year that would redefine the term "affordable housing" to be more realistic. ▼

B.A.R. donates \$4,000 to local groups

by Cynthia Laird

The *Bay Area Reporter* this week donated \$4,000 — \$1,000 each to four local organizations — as a result of reader participation in a survey the paper conducted earlier this year.

Readers who completed the

survey were asked to choose one of the four charities to which a donation could be made.

Letters and checks went out Tuesday, August 29 to: the AIDS Emergency Fund, which provides financial assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS; the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, which provides programs for lesbian, gay, bisexual,

transgender, queer, and questioning youth; Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, which provides low-cost health services to women; and Face to Face, a Sonoma County organization that provides HIV/AIDS and hospice services.

Publisher Bob Ross thanked those readers who responded to the survey. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Steamworks death ruled drug OD by coroner

by Ed Walsh

The Alameda County Coroner's office confirmed suspicions that a 26-year-old Seattle man found dead in the Steamworks bathhouse in June died of a drug overdose.

AHP needs facilitators

by Terry Beswick

These days, everyone's an expert it seems. And in San Francisco, when it comes to HIV/AIDS, it is true that many people without formal education or training can draw upon their personal knowledge and life experiences to share with others.

The University of California, San Francisco's AIDS Health Project is seeking volunteers to facilitate a number of peer-led support groups. While AHP requires that potential volunteers have "an understanding of HIV/AIDS," group facilitation experience is helpful, but not necessary. The weekly support groups are available at no cost to participants.

Interested individuals must acquire a little formal training, however, before being turned loose on AHP's clients. The next weekend training session is scheduled for September 8-10. Volunteer facilitators should also be available to work 10-12 hours per month.

Located at 1930 Market Street, the AIDS Health Project, which is part of UCSF, also provides individual counseling, crisis intervention, trainings, and educational publications. To learn more about the AIDS Health Project, visit www.ucsf-ahp.org, or call (415) 476-3902.

For more information about the weekend facilitator training or the support group programs, call AHP's Julie Frank at (415) 476-3785. ▼

Correction

In an article last week about mandatory testing for newborns in the House version of the Ryan White CARE Act ["Where is your Rage?," August 24], the *Bay Area Reporter* erroneously quoted Eileen Hansen, former policy director for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, as saying that there was no provision in the bill to offer treatment to those who tested positive. In fact, The B.A.R. mistakenly used a quote from Hansen that applied to a previous bill by the same author, U.S. Representative Tom Coburn (R-Okla-homa). Coburn's previous bill is no longer on the table, and the current CARE Act does include language regarding the need to make treatment available to pregnant women with HIV and their infants, according to Hansen. The B.A.R. regrets the error.

Jason Scott Kohlhofer was found dead in a private room in the Berkeley club on the eve of Pride weekend, Friday, June 23. He was discovered just before 5 a.m., nearly eight hours after he checked in. A Steamworks manager found him slumped over on the floor. A hypodermic needle was found in the room. Paramedics pronounced him dead at the scene.

Although the coroner's office hasn't finalized its report, Coroner Supervisor Dan Apperson told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Kohlhofer's death was formally ruled to be a drug overdose. Apperson said toxicology reports showed heroin in Kohlhofer's system, and that Kohlhofer's father told investigators his son had a history of heroin use.

On the Monday after Kohlhofer's death, the director of the Steamworks' health information program, Paul Cotten, spoke

with Kohlhofer's sister and the friend he had been staying with in the Bay Area. Cotten said he learned that Kohlhofer had apparently relapsed after being off heroin for three months. Steamworks has a reputation for being very proactive in its drug and AIDS education efforts. It employs Cotten full-time to coordinate its health programs.

Since Kohlhofer's death, Cotten said Steamworks has "beefed up" its zero tolerance drug policy. Just two weeks ago, the club posted enlarged warning signs reminding patrons of the policy. Cotten said it's important to regularly change signs so they don't become like wallpaper.

Cotten said he hoped that Kohlhofer's senseless death will drive home the message of the danger of drugs. He added it's an obvious point but one that too many people don't get. ▼

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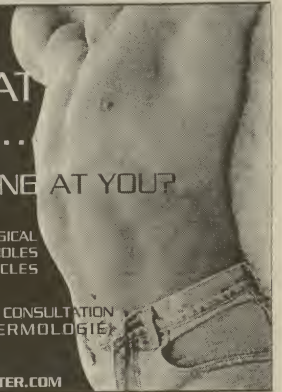
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Cynthia Laird

ARTS EDITOR

Roberto Friedman

POLITICAL EDITOR

Wayne Friday

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Terry Beswick

Mark Mardon

Katie Szymanski

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tavo Amador • Heidi Beeler • David Bianco
Erin Blackwell • John Blanco • Dan Blue
Nancy Boutiller • Victoria A. Brownworth
Phillip Campbell • Chris Culwell • Richard Dodds
Nisa Donnelly • Liz Highleyman • Brandon Judell
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Ed Walsh • Dick Walters

ART DIRECTION & DESIGN

Adrian Roberts

AD PRODUCTION & LAYOUT

Scott King

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Mike Hardison

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jane Philomen Cleland • Darlene/PhotoGraphics
Marc Geller • Rick Gerharter

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NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Rivendell Marketing Company, Inc.
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LEGAL COUNSEL

Thomas E. Horn, Esq.

MEMBER

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Bay Area Reporter

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http://www.ebar.com

News Editor • barpaper@aol.com

Arts Editor • bararts@aol.com

Advertising • baradv@aol.com

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A place for Curtis

"No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open."

— Luke 8:16-17

Unfortunately, Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco failed to follow this biblical advice when confronted by us over the circumstances surrounding the death last month of Curtis Oliver Jr., a young man who had been staying at the church's small, six-bed shelter for queer youth. MCC-SF officials announced last week that the shelter is closing today. It's welcome news. That does not mean we oppose shelters in the Castro for homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning youth; we do not. We do, however, have grave concerns with how MCC-SF handled the Oliver situation.

From the beginning, when a staff member called 911 on July 3 and immediately requested that the ambulance arrive without its lights flashing to the August 23 announcement that while the shelter was closing the project was a "success," MCC-SF staff members from the pastors on down have been reluctant to talk about the incident, which is still being investigated by the Medical Examiner's office. Can a church or anyone dictate how an emergency vehicle responds to a call and can a project be successful if a client collapses and later dies?

The church, which strongly supports a queer youth shelter in the Castro, has been extremely fearful of a backlash from Castro residents opposed to the shelter plan. In fact, a city-backed plan for a shelter at 2500 Market Street has been stymied for over a year now, although it now appears the project is moving forward.

By stonewalling the media, MCC-SF has just brought more attention to its shelter, which was just under the legal limit for a conditional use permit from the city. Did the staff have CPR and first aid certification? What was the emergency medical plan? What safeguards were in place to ensure that

clients of the shelter were referred to substance abuse programs if that's what they needed? We don't know the answers to these questions, because MCC-SF staff stopped talking to us.

That the shelter operated solely under the purview of MCC-SF raises serious questions of accountability. Privately run programs that are regulated by the city are accountable and evaluated. Sometimes, the bureaucratic red tape that we all love to hate is actually there for a reason — it provides accountability.

We welcome MCC-SF's announcement that they are establishing a task force to look for funding and an appropriate facility for a future shelter program. We would also hope that the task force examines and reevaluates the training necessary to effectively work with the high-risk population that often seeks shelter services.

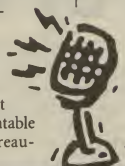
If there's a lesson to be learned from MCC-SF's shelter, it's that such social service programs are sorely needed in San

Francisco, where many queer young people come after being booted out of their homes.

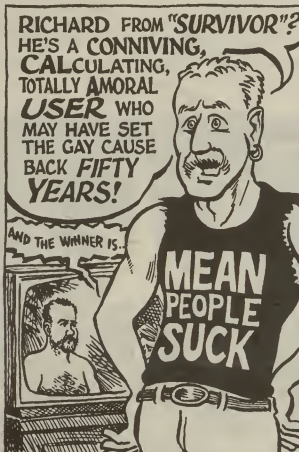
We have never suggested that Mr. Oliver was less of a human being for his apparent problems, and the struggles he went through demonstrate the need for such programs. While we've been accused by some readers of trying to minimize Mr. Oliver's life by focusing on his death, we disagree.

The bottom line is that someone went to a privately operated program to receive social services and died. The irony is that the church started out by trying to create a program to meet the needs of queer youth and affirm their dignity; but in the end, they have worked to eliminate all traces of Mr. Oliver's presence and rendered him invisible by denying him the dignity that they were originally trying to affirm.

Perhaps MCC-SF's future shelter could be named in honor of Curtis Oliver Jr. That would seem a fitting tribute to a young man who died much too early in his life. ▼



Editorial



Varying emotions over sex talk

by Sister MaryMae Himm of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Inc., aka Vince Gaither

Lately, I feel a lot of contradictory emotions.

On one hand, I am glad gay men in San Francisco have the opportunity to talk about gay male community, sex, and HIV prevention in a realistic, non-judgmental, life-affirming way. This kind of public conversation is long overdue, and is necessary if our community is ever going to stem the tide of HIV infections.

On the other hand, my personal ethics and morals have been attacked by a group of denialists that is simultaneously claiming HIV does not cause AIDS, and blaming me for the spread of HIV; demanding public accountability from others, yet refusing to open their own books; perpetrating violence and assaults on any of us who name them as liars.

This all leads me to question the value of the conversation. Is participating in public discussions about gay men and HIV worth it, or are the personal costs to participants so high that many people avoid weighing in?

I find it ironic that the answer to this question is the same as the answer to our questions about barebacking, and the answer to many questions that arise about sex in general. This answer is "yes and no," or, even better, "Depends on the day, time, people, situation, and how one feels at the moment."

Like most important aspects of life, there are no easy and quick answers available. While many want to boil down the complexity into a simple sound bite and fit all gay men into a box and then say, "This is the prevention method that works," this is not pos-

sible and it hasn't worked over the last 20 years of the epidemic.

Those who are attacking me are using the same tactics of the religious right to put gay male sex in a box, and define it according to their terms.

How I have sex as a gay man is different from how every other gay man has sex. In each encounter, the things that are important to me are different than they might be for someone else in the same exact situation. Rather than attempting to create a one-size-fits-all approach to responsible sexuality, perhaps we might give individuals the power, esteem, and information necessary to make informed decisions about their sexual values and activities.

Instead of attacking those who have sex in ways in which we can't relate, why not just find others whose desires parallel our own? Then go out and enjoy ourselves as much and as often as we like. I have spent a great deal of time and energy evaluating what works for me sexually. I did this only after years of learning what did not work. I finally felt I deserved to get what I wanted out of sex, and realized that sex was not only something that feels great, but also serves to affirm my soul as a gay man and as a human being.

I have used the term "harm reduction" in the past in relation to responsible sexuality. It has been pointed out that this draws a dangerous parallel between gay male sex and drug addiction. I haven't really thought of a better term yet, but I am working on it. I hate the term "barebacking." It rings of sensational journalism and tired ethics being shoved down my throat.

I have set in place a number of personal

principles related to my sex life:

1. I disclose my status. I usually do this very early in the conversation, and it is something I do even when I am not sure if I am even interested in having sex with someone. If I am having sex in a place where I can't disclose (i.e., a sex club, or places where the environment discourages conversation), then I engage in safer sex behaviors. I would like to say I always do this, but I have failed on occasion.

2. I tend toward dating more than tricking. I personally like the intimacy that goes with having sex with someone I know. I have tricked on occasion and gone to sex clubs and bathhouses.

There is a part of me that wishes I were able to enjoy these more, but it is not how I am built.

3. I don't put my dick in a negative guy's ass without a condom. I have dated negative guys in the past, and don't really have much luck with them. I have a set of issues in this area which makes it difficult for me to even fuck them let alone not use a condom.

4. Overall I am a chatty cat. I like conversation, and talking. I look forward to using the discussion about what my partner's safe sex boundaries are as a way to get to know them. It is the intimacy and the connection I need to have a really good romp in the hay.

Let's remember: life doesn't exist in a bubble. We are not responsible for the way every gay man has sex. Let's celebrate one another's differences, and support one another's rights to these differences. Let's also remember that somewhere out there is someone saying that your brand of sex is immoral, crazy, disgusting, dangerous, or unsatisfying. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Nader's talk doesn't match actions

Ralph Nader is by all accounts a very smart man, his humorless, hair-shirt personality aside. But he's only interested in one issue: the growth of corporate power and its corrupting influence on democracy. He has little interest in – or commitment to – social issues.

For his entire career, Nader had little or nothing to say about abortion, gay civil rights, affirmative action, or race relations. Despite grassroots Green efforts to help defeat the anti-affirmative action "California Civil Rights Initiative," Nader would not take a stand.

When Phil Donahue asked Nader about abortion, he dismissed the entire issue as "too much private stuff." His only detectable involvement in women's issues during the last 40 years were his efforts to include women on juries in the 1950s and 1960s – an issue long since decided.

He dismissed concerns over gay civil rights as "gonadal politics."

Nader talks like a big friend of labor, but his actions tell a different story. In the early 1970s, he treated unionized airline and trucking workers as beneficiaries of government-sanctioned monopolies and pushed the successful drive for deregulation of these industries, with disastrous effects on workers later in the decade.

Closer to home, Nader squashed efforts to unionize workers at his publication, *Multinational Monitor*, through a vicious campaign of heavy-handed tactics and intimidation. After staffers alleged unfair labor practices and filed papers with the National Labor Relations Board asking for union recognition, Nader changed the office locks (within 24 hours), "gave" the magazine to his closest aides as a free gift, and fired the entire staff, none of whom were ever rehired.

When the fired workers filed unfair labor practice charges with the NLRB, Nader's aides retaliated with a \$1.2 million civil suit, charging that the ex-staffers were trying to "destroy their business." A settlement was reached in which the complaint and suit were both dropped, but from that point on, the *Monitor* has been a scab publication.

Until this election year, Nader obviously did not want to be associated with Greens. He refused membership in the Greens and disavowed the party's platform; he even refused an interview with the national newsletter of the Greens, the quarterly tabloid, *Green Politics*.

Even after embracing the Greens as a vehicle for his political ambitions, it's not clear that a majority of mainstream Greens even wanted him on the ballot. In state after state, the Nader campaign compromised the integrity of local Greens in its grim determination to be on as many state ballots as possible. Wherever the local Greens resisted the Nader juggernaut, ambitious individuals were recruited to launch a Green petition drive of their own.

To cite just two examples: Nader told Ohio Greens that organizers from California would bring a petition drive to their state if they declined to do so. When Greens in Texas opposed a statewide Nader drive, Greens across the country received repeated "emergency" fundraising appeals over the Internet to send campaign organizers there over the objections of the Texas Greens.

In 1996, former *Monitor* staffer Doug Henwood summed up Nader this way: "Ralph Nader may look like a Democrat, smell like a populist, and sound like a socialist – but deep down he's a frightened, petit bourgeois moralizer without a political compass, more concerned with his image than the movement he claims to lead; in short, an opportunist, a liberal hack. And a scab."

T.J. Pierce
San Francisco

Whatever you do, vote

I am disappointed by those who I believe will throw their vote away when they vote for Ralph Nader, and I am resigned to the fact that a number of gay Republicans will be fooled into voting for George Bush. The important thing, however, is that we get out and vote! There is too much at stake in this election for gay people to allow others to make the decisions.

As a federal employee, I have seen on the inside the differences that Bill Clinton and Al Gore have made. Gore championed the reinvention of government and some very real changes have been made, reducing the number of supervisors, empowering employees, and eliminating thousands of unnecessary forms and regulations.

The amount of bureaucracy has been reduced. There is still a long way to go, but substantial progress has been made. A strong customer service ethic has been instilled in government employees, and we do truly care about serving the American people.

As for Clinton, we can be disappointed that strong opposition forces prevented him from ending the ban on gays in the military, but he has done incredible things within the government for gay and lesbian employees. We are able to use our sick leave to attend funerals for our family of affinity, the same way heterosexuals can for their relatives by marriage. Strong

GLOBE [gay and lesbian] employee organizations have formed in most agencies nationwide, and significant education efforts have begun to make the federal workplace comfortable and fair for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people. Pressure from the White House was needed and used in some instances to allow the GLOBE chapters to form.

I wish that Clinton and Gore supported gay marriage, but I can accept that for now society is not ready for gay marriage. We will change that in the future. However, the Republicans do not believe I have a right to have a job. I have been discriminated against twice for being gay and my recourse was because of strong protections in California law and federal policy which the Republicans oppose. Clinton and Gore have showed strong support for the federal Employment Non-discrimination Act.

I think our community should vote for the Gore-Lieberman ticket, but more importantly I think our community just needs to vote. Even if you do vote for Bush or Nader, Mark Leno is also a good supervisor and if nothing else he needs our votes. Take some responsibility for our community and register to vote.

Greg L. Pennington
San Francisco

Staggering hypocrisy

Once again, Dale Carpenter's column ["The perfunctory party," August 24] from the right wing is staggering in its hypocrisy. This attack on the Democratic Party platform and practices on LGBT rights would be unexceptional if it emanated from the far

left of the queer movement. But it comes from an apologist for the Neanderthals of the Republican Party, whose regressive policies and attitudes have moved only cosmetic inches from the vicious convention of 1992, and his analysis makes me question his moral integrity, or at a minimum, his sanity or his intellectual ability. This sort of blatant dishonesty is why the Uncle Tom's Cabin Repubs garner so little respect outside their inbred self-referential privileged circles. If he wanted to articulate differences between the policies of the parties that he considers to reflect well on Republicans he might talk about tax policy (favoring the rich and the corporate) or reducing governmental intrusion into private lives (e.g. prohibiting gay adoptions and maintaining "sodomy" laws, reverting to prohibition of military service by gay and lesbian citizens etc.) For example, he might talk about the judicial activism of Supreme Court appointments like Clarence Thomas, William Rehnquist, and Antonin Scalia.

But no, he chooses to attack the Democrats for being imperfect in an area where the Republicans are so much worse that the contrast between the parties would be hilarious if it weren't so tragic.

Mr. Carpenter's analysis is that of a morally bankrupt political hack.

Will Hutchison
Bakersfield, California

Thanks from MCC neighbor

Praise must be given to the *Bay Area Reporter* for its printing and reporting on the full disclosure of the 911 call made by an MCC-SF staff member in response to a life-threatening emergency in my neighborhood last month ["MCC-SF to 911: 'Please, no lights,'" August 17]. As the story's simple headline read, so rings true the church's ongoing consideration for its immediate neighbors such as me.

Having lived a few doors down from the Metropolitan Community Church for nearly four years now, I once again appreciate the consideration the church has demonstrated for its neighbors on Eureka Street, as well as the compassion MCC-SF has given the growing number of us who can't afford the homes or rents in a neighborhood many of us feel at home in.

I am more than impressed by the maturity of the young staffer's call to 911. Handling herself in a very dignified manner, it appears Ms. Tawnee Walling's quick action and forward thinking not only had Curtis Oliver, the homeless youth, under a doctor's care within minutes, but Ms. Walling also spared us neighbors from a 5 a.m. wake-up cacophony of ambulance sirens.

Thank you again for letting the greater community know that MCC cares for all its neighbors, regardless of net worth, age, or sexual orientation.

Jim Gatteau
San Francisco

Keep it quiet

Of course MCC-SF wants to try to keep the Curtis Oliver death quiet. When someone dies on the premises, it becomes even harder for MCC to perpetuate the myth that it helps people.

Bill Hanrahan
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Mr. Oliver collapsed at the MCC-SF church; he died a few days later at a local hospital.]



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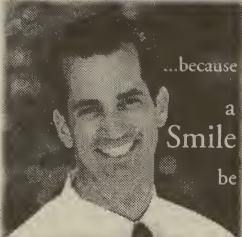
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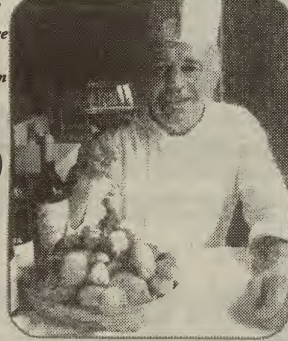
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Disturbed at recent coverage

I was disturbed by your recent news coverage of Curtis Oliver Jr.'s death ["MCC-SF to 911: 'Please, no lights,'" August 17] and Anne Heche's illness ["Ellen & Anne split," August 24]. They were unfortunate instances of the Bay Area Reporter catering to the supermarket tabloid mentality.

There has been public debate over when a personal tragedy should be treated as news. Most people with a sense of decency agree that when something personal is made public it must be done without sensationalism.

The stories about Mr. Oliver seemed to imply that he never existed prior to his death. If it was deemed necessary to invade his privacy by reporting on that tragedy, the B.A.R. should have interviewed people who would make positive statements and help portray him as a person. Mr. Oliver's dignity could have been protected and readers could have been educated by an enlightened story. The public should have been reminded that a person does not leave the human race when he is homeless or on drugs.

The front page article about Anne Heche and Ellen DeGeneres was what I expected from the mainstream media. Among other things, it contained a foolish quote from a witness who evidently failed to understand the seriousness of Ms. Heche's situation. Ms. Heche and Ms. DeGeneres's creative contributions were mentioned only briefly, near the end of the article. The breakup of a lesbian couple and the apparent stress-related illness of one of the partners is sensational material for ambitious media people. The B.A.R. should have done better.

Readers should object to this form of journalism. If we are to retain our humanity, we must insist that the subjects of news stories be treated with the same respect which we would request if we were in a similar situation.

Ann Mason
San Francisco

Power to O'Hearn

Whether District 8 needs male leadership will be decided by voters. But inasmuch as female leadership helped to ensure "closure" of gay bathhouses in the 1980s - I'm thinking of then-Mayor Dianne Feinstein and 1984 Milk Club President Carole Migden - I suspect the kind of female leadership found in Alice and the Milk Club, on city commissions, and not so long ago embodied by the chief of the Department of Public Health, will do nothing toward restoring private spaces to gay men in "sex clubs." To my knowledge, no other candidate for supervisor has been willing to acknowledge this issue as has Shawn O'Hearn - which is why, in conjunction with his other positions, I support him in District 8 over any candidate in any district.

Despite the Human Rights Commission's (1984) and the HRC LGBT Advisory Committee's (1997) having found the privacy ban unacceptable, over the past couple of years people like former HRC President Martha Knutzen, current Health Commission President Roma Guy, and former DPH Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez, have shown themselves unsympathetic to privacy rights for gay men in public sex venues. That's a good record for female leadership only if you go along with scapegoating bathhouses for HIV transmission. I would be less surprised if Carol Ruth Silver, straight, once Harvey Milk's closest ally on the board and now running in District 6, were to champion this issue than were Denise D'Anne or Eileen Hansen to do so.

More power to Shawn might restore San Francisco's reputation as a "bathroom town." More power to Shawn would make this a better world. More power to Shawn. Power! Power! Power!

Reid Condit
San Francisco

Don't hate in the Haight

On a recent Sunday evening, I witnessed a homophobic incident on Haight Street that should be a wake-up call. Two young gay men of slight build were walking down the street hand-in-hand, having a good time, minding their own business. Out of the blue, one of the drug nomads on the street, a large white male with long blond hair, starting shouting anti-gay remarks at the two. He jumped in front of one of them, spat in his face, and yelled, "Faggot! I hope you die of AIDS!" Several other male drug nomads chimed in, egging the attacker on. Luckily, someone on the street started shouting at the attacker, diverting his attention long enough so that the gay couple could escape.

The good news is that incidents like this are becoming less frequent on Haight Street, thanks to neighborhood efforts to get the homophobic drunks and junkies under control. But the sad part is that a vocal and misguided minority of gay folks have resisted this effort every step of the way. Two years ago, for example, a group calling themselves "the Radical Faeries of the Haight," with support from ACT UP/SF, held a demonstration opposing efforts to make the Haight safer. (No, I'm not making this up.) Even sadder is the fact that no gay or lesbian political leader has ever spoken out in favor of this neighborhood effort, despite repeated pleas to do so.

But the saddest thing of all this: with each passing month, I see more and more of the drug nomads

moving from the Haight to the Castro. Here again, a vocal minority in our community have opposed every effort to control their abusive behavior. Here again, our political leaders have failed to speak up to defend our community's well-being.

It's time to put aside the self-delusion that some in our community pass off as political correctness. Their folly only serves to debase political correctness. Drug-addiction, alcoholism, and homelessness are no excuses for homophobic attacks. Let's act to protect our neighborhoods before someone is killed. Tom Ammiano, Mark Leno, Eileen Hansen - are you listening?

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Castro lesbian vents

As a lesbian resident of the Castro, I enjoy the collection of clothing, gift, and antique stores interspersed with colorful Victorians, restaurants, and pubs. In my time of residing in this affluent sector of San Francisco, I have come to admire the sense of community and pride. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people are frequently the victims of acts that are motivated by prejudice and bias against them. Certain criminal acts, when committed because of a bias against the victim or a group to which the victim is perceived to belong, are classified as hate crimes. In most places, these groups include those crimes committed against people because of their real or perceived gender, religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Hate crime law acts as a deterrent because hate crime perpetrators are punished more severely in states where such laws exist.

Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia have laws against hate crimes. Of those, 22 include sexual orientation in categories protected. California is one of those states. One would think that they would be in a sense protected more in a predominantly gay neighborhood from the outpouring of these crimes. I firmly disagree.

On a daily basis, I am witness and victim to the male dominance of the Castro. I have been physically shoved out of a gay man's way, and have been victim to a number of anti-lesbian remarks from gay men. On a daily basis, I am witness to the rainbow flag that flies over Harvey Milk Plaza. I think that people have forgotten that the intention of this historical symbol is that of gay and LESBIAN pride. This flag was created in a response to a call for the need of a "community" symbol. The colors represent, respectively: sexuality, life, healing, sun, nature, are, harmony, and spirit. The flag is a reminder of our diverse community composed of people with a variety of individual tastes of which we should all be proud.

Deidre Murphy
San Francisco

About Kiss Me Kate

I would like to set the record straight on your article on *Kiss Me Kate* ["King Cole meets the Bard," August 10].

The glasses worn to view the 3-D movies released in color (*House of Wax*, *Dial M for Murder*, *Hondo*) in 1953 and 1954 were Polaroid lenses and not the red and green type. Red and green lenses may have been used for the black and white films in 3-D (*Creature from the Black Lagoon*, *It Came from Outer Space*) but I think not.

Kiss Me Kate may be the best, but it is not the only musical to be filmed in 3-D.

Those Redheads from Seattle, which stars Rhonda Fleming, Gene Barry, Agnes Moorehead and pop singers, Teresa Brewer, and Guy Mitchell was released as a 3-D Technicolor musical in 1953.

In the following year, *Red Garters*, another Technicolor musical, was released in 3-D starring Rosemary Clooney, Jack Carson, Guy Mitchell, and Gene Barry.

In 1953, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis starred in a 3-D film in Technicolor called *Money from Home*. Although not a musical in the truest sense of the word, it can be considered a comedy with musical numbers sung by Dean.

Jane Russell (J.R. in 3-D!) followed *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* with a Technicolor 3-D musical aboard an ocean liner called *The French Line*.

Finally, although there may be others, in 1953, Rita Hayworth starred as Miss Sadie Thompson in a musical version of Somerset Maugham's *Rain* in Technicolor and in 3-D. Jose Ferrer and Aldo Ray co-starred.

I am such a fan of the 3-D process, I just wish people would get it right - nothing personal.

John Malanga
Pacifica, California

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POLITICS

Voters focus on issues, give Gore a lift

by Wayne Friday

Although Texas Governor **George W. Bush**, the Republican presidential nominee, has been seen as the candidate with the appealing personality while Democratic Vice President **Al Gore** has had problems emerging from the shadow of an immensely popular President **Bill Clinton**, a Field Poll released a few days ago now shows that national voters in general, and California voters in particular, appear to prefer having a president with a "solid understanding of the issues to one with a pleasing personality."

The latest Field Poll now shows Gore and his running mate, Senator **Joseph Lieberman**, leading Bush and his running mate, **Dick Cheney**, in California by 13 percentage points. While both Bush and Gore enjoyed the usual post-convention bounces in recent polls, it is Gore's that appears to mean the most. Since the Democratic convention in Los Angeles earlier this month, Gore has surged ahead of Bush in most national polls and he has done it largely by winning back traditional Democratic voters, particularly women (where Bush has for months enjoyed a lead). Though Gore's chances of defeating Bush in November now appear to be have been enhanced greatly, both camps agree that the shifting public mood still remains highly volatile and despite his lead in most polls, Gore realizes the election is up for grabs.

However, after trailing Bush throughout the months since the decisive primaries that ended in March, the vice president took the lead after the Democratic convention. Whether or not the numbers continue to stand up for Gore until November is questionable, but even some Republican strategists appear to be shaken over the reversal of roles of Gore and Bush with respect to their current poll standings. Gore, who trailed Bush by 9 percentage points among women before the Democratic convention, jumped to a 22-percentage point lead - 58 percent to 36 percent, in the latest Gallup Poll following the convention. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 5 points. Gallup and other surveys showed Gore scoring less dramatic gains among independents and low to moderate income voters, although even there he erased a 19-point deficit among independents to pull even with Bush in the Gallup survey.

So, why has Gore suddenly seemingly connected with the voters after months of lagging behind Bush? Though those running Bush's campaign would never admit it, Bush has for months enjoyed a "honeymoon" with national journalists, columnists, and television talking heads - until Gore delivered his acceptance speech in L.A. It seems Gore's speech connected with voters better than the one Bush gave at the GOP convention in Philadelphia. The vice president has apparently been successful in regaining the party's traditional advantage among women voters as well; it is the re-emergence of the so-called



Vice President Al Gore

"gender vote" that now appears to favor Gore, and this has become a troubling development for the Bush campaign, which had previously done well among women voters.

Gore's surging popularity among women voters mirrors his gains on issues they tend to care most about: education, health care, and the all-important abortion issue. Gore strongly supports a woman's right

to choose while Bush strongly adheres to his party's pro-life position on the explosive issue. Also, the Gore campaign attributes his rise in polls to his focus on specific policy proposals, especially those that would benefit working families.

One national Republican strategist, openly gloating at Bush's high numbers as recently as the Republican convention earlier this month, was telling reporters this week that "Gore has really connected; this is a new ball game, and it is now Gore's to lose," adding that "we [Republicans] are now in big trouble and I don't think we ever saw it coming."

Polls change almost daily, and leads shift among candidates weekly; this election will very likely be decided by the presidential debates - something that Bush and the Republicans are now saying they are not yet ready to agree to despite having previously agreed to three October debates set by the nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates.

Politics and people

Say what? The "Bushisms" continue and readers continue to send them in. Last week Governor Bush, attempting to explain his tax cut plan to a Peoria, Illinois audience, appeared to have little command of the figures. Bush: "I've got to do a better job of making it clear that starting with a baseline of about \$1.9 trillion in the next 20 years, the budgets will increase by about \$3.3 trillion, and yet, we've still got another \$2.3 trillion of surplus." Try adding that one up; or as the *Los Angeles Times* commented on this latest Bushism: "The occasional wrong word is no crime, but having no clue about one's own tax program is a tougher story."

And how about **Ross Perot's** sorry Reform Party? California Secretary of State **Bill Jones** announced last week that he was taking **Pat Buchanan** off the No-

vember ballot here and some states have actually resorted to pulling names out of glass bowls to determine whether Buchanan or his opponent, **John Hagelin**, will appear on their ballots (Some states, including Alabama, will place both Hagelin and Buchanan on the ballot).

San Franciscan **Harry Low**, a highly respected former appellate court justice, and one of the most decent guys you will ever meet, was confirmed as the state's new insurance commissioner last week by unanimous votes in both the state Senate and the Assembly. Low will not likely seek another term in 2002 to the insurance czar spot, but state Senator **Jackie Speier** reportedly will go for the job.

A Proposition 22-type ballot measure clarifying the Nebraska state Constitution to legally recognize only marriages between a man and a woman will appear on the November ballot in that state and will likely pass easily.

When San Francisco school board member **Steve Phillips** resigned last week so that Mayor **Willie Brown** could appoint school board candidate **Shawn Richard** to complete the term, he (Phillips) angered some of the other candidates for the November election, but he appeared to please some of his colleagues who were glad to see him go.

If the Democratic Party regains control of the House of Representatives in November, our very own Representative **Nancy Pelosi** (D) will likely become the House party whip, the No. 3 job in that body and it would make her the very first woman ever to hold that high position. However, Pelosi must get the job without the support of East Bay Congresswoman **Ellen Tauscher**, a fellow Democrat, who will be supporting Pelosi's opponent, Representative **Steny Hoyer** (D-Maryland) for the spot. Local Democratic insiders tell me there is no love lost between the two Bay Area congressmembers.

District 6 supe candidate **Chris Dittenhafer** picked up the endorsements this week of both the Alice Toklas Demo Club and the District 6 Demo Club.

Finally, to the reader who wrote that having a lesbian daughter (**Mary Cheney**) clearly suggests that Dick Cheney is more acceptable to gay rights than the sometimes conservative (moderate) Joe Lieberman, his veep opponent: True, Lieberman has not always been the most progressive vote on gay issues. Lieberman did, however, sponsor legislation to prohibit job discrimination against gays (Cheney opposed same) but also backed a bill in 1994 to deny federal money to schools presenting material "supportive of homosexuality" and voted to prohibit same-sex marriage in federal law. Lieberman, like Al Gore, however, is now in "full support of equal rights for all gay and lesbian Americans." Now, take a look at Cheney's voting record on all legislation related to gay rights - he has been totally homophobic in all of his votes. Lesbian daughter or not, Cheney has an anti-gay voting record throughout his political career. Lieberman's record on gays versus Cheney? There's no reason to even consider that one.

And how was your week? ▼

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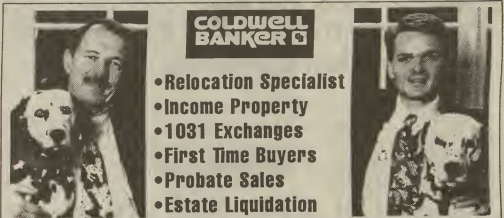
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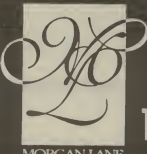


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Who was John Addington Symonds?

by Wik Wikholm

August 19, 1890 (110 years ago this month): Walt Whitman criticizes English homosexual pioneer John Addington Symonds

John Addington Symonds was such a vocal defender of "sexual aberrations" that Algernon Swinburne, a leading English intellectual, nicknamed the famous writer "Soddington Symonds" in a twist on the word sodomy. Yet Symonds, who co-authored the first English book about homosexuality, was wracked with guilt about his own sexual tastes.

In 1840 Symonds was born in Clifton, England, to wealthy physician Dr. John Symonds, a pious man who taught his son to adhere to strict Puritan morality. When Symonds was 13, his father enrolled him at Harrow, a prestigious English boarding school, and the boy experienced a crisis. "It was the moral state of the school," he wrote in his memoirs. "Here and there one could not avoid seeing acts of onanism, mutual masturbation, the sport of naked boys in bed together. They filled me with disgust and loathing." Even worse, Symonds learned that Charles Vaughan, Harrow's headmaster, had a sexual relationship with a pupil.

Symonds's moralism put him in a tough spot. He was sexually attracted to other boys and even became romantically involved with a choirboy, Willie Dyer, but his moral restraint kept the relationship chaste. Symonds's romance with Willie continued even after he graduated from Harrow and matriculated at Oxford, where he became enthralled with the classics. Ancient Greek literature especially interested Symonds because Greek pedastasy seemed to validate his feelings for Willie. Symonds, who aspired to a literary career, wrote many poems about the "love of the Ancients." When discussing his poetry with another student, he told his friend about Vaughan's relationship with his pupil. His friend convinced Symonds to tell his father. When he did, Dr. Symonds wrote Vaughan, threatening to ruin him. Vaughan resigned, and never reentered public life.

At the height of the Vaughan affair, Symonds confessed his feelings for Willie to his father. Dr. Symonds told him to end the relationship. Symonds complied, fearing for his career. Hoping to overcome his sexual desires, Symonds married Catherine North in 1864, but his plan failed. After four years of marriage, Symonds, now teaching literature, fell in love with a 19-year-old stu-



Symonds's grave in Rome

dent. The relationship did not last, but his first experience of male-male sex so far surpassed anything he had ever experienced with Catherine that he asked her to forego sex. Catherine was hurt, but she agreed.

Symonds's academic career ended abruptly in 1871. His physician told him that a nagging cough was caused by an advanced case of tuberculosis and recommended the standard treatment: clear mountain air. Symonds moved his family to Davos,

Swiss village where he began writing what amounted to more than 35 volumes on history and literature. The work he most enjoyed was not his critically acclaimed seven-volume study of the Italian Renaissance, but poetry one biographer has called "execrable." Awful or not, the poems Symonds wrote gave him a forum in which he celebrated male-male sex and tried to justify his own sexual inclinations.

When Symonds's health permitted, he traveled to Venice, his favorite city. There he met Angelo Fusato, a handsome gondolier, and hired him as a servant. The two developed a sexual relationship that lasted the rest of Symonds's life. The relationship fulfilled Symonds's dream of a romance with a man, but he still struggled with Puritan guilt. He read everything he could find about what he called his "abnormality," especially medical literature and the work of German scholar Karl Ulrichs. Both Ulrichs and the doctors wrote that this "abnormality" was a result of inborn effeminacy.

Symonds also found solace in Walt Whitman's poetry. He liked Whitman's portraits of manly comradeship better than the effeminacy Ulrichs and the doctors wrote about. Beginning in 1871, Symonds exchanged many letters with the American poet, but he only hinted at his true interest in Whitman's work. In 1890, he fi-

nally asked Whitman if the love of comrades entailed "physical intimacies." On August 19, 1890, Whitman wrote back that Symonds's "morbid inferences" were "damnable." Whitman scholars have never quite explained why the poet, a man who had romances with several men, erupted so furiously, but Symonds was crushed.

Without Whitman's support, Symonds turned to Ulrichs when he wrote one of the first and boldest defenses of male love in 19th century England. In 1891, Symonds privately printed "A Problem in Modern Ethics." He argued that "abnormal inclinations" are inborn and unchangeable and that laws against male-male sex are therefore unjust. Now convinced that scientific arguments were the best justification for "abnormality," Symonds approached a physician named Havelock Ellis and asked him to collaborate on a book. The result was *Sexual Inversion*, the first book-length study of homosexuality published in England.

Symonds died in 1893 attended to by Angelo. *Sexual Inversion* was still incomplete, but when its first editions appeared, his name was on the title page. Anxious to preserve Symonds's literary reputation, his literary executor asked Ellis to remove it. Ellis complied, and Symonds's contribution was forgotten until 1964 when a biographer retold his story. ▼

Wik Wikholm produces gayhistory.com, an introduction to modern gay history. He can be reached on the site's discussion boards, or by e-mail at wik@gayhistory.com. For more *Past Out*, visit www.planetout.com.

Suggested reading

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COMMENTARY

Gay artists unite – on the Internet

by Paula Martinac

In July, the American Library Association released a list of the 100 most challenged books of the 1990s, titles that patrons tried to get removed from library bookshelves because of content like violence, the occult, or sexuality, including positive depictions of homosexuality. While I find these attempts at censorship distressing, they don't get me riled up the way another brand of censorship does. I'm concerned about the more subtle censorship that ensures that lesbian and gay writing, music, and other art forms don't get published or distributed at all, and I'm interested in finding ways to combat it.

We don't generally think of the inability of writers to get published or musicians to get produced as censorship. The mainstream publishing industry has done a pretty good job of convincing the reading public that only the very best writers get into print. "If you can't find an agent who likes your book," one agent told *Writer's Digest* magazine, "perhaps there is something wrong with your book." The writers' community knows, however, that the selection process in mainstream publishing often has more to do with who you are or whom you know than with the quality of your work.

As a result, some very fine writers and artists never find agents, publishers, or producers for their work. Increasingly, mainstream publishing companies, swallowed up by entertainment conglomerates like Disney, focus their resources on a handful of blockbuster authors, while viewing the queer-themed work they rushed to publish in the early 1990s as now largely unsalable.

When publishers or music producers make the decision that customers don't want work by gays and lesbians, that work will have a hard time seeing daylight, no matter what its quality. Of course, the invisibility of queer art is nothing new: It's why lesbian and gay publishing companies and music labels started up in the 1970s and 1980s.

Increasingly, however, opportunities for artists within the queer community have begun to dry up, too. Many of our pub-

lishing companies have either gone under or tightened their focus to offer mostly erotica or mysteries. Olivia Records, which spearheaded the women's music movement, has reinvented itself as a lesbian cruise company.

It would be easy to gnash our teeth over this narrowing of possibilities for queer artists, which is happening, ironically, just as gay visibility in society is increasing. The good news is that the Internet can help open the gates of access, with sites like xlibris.com facilitating self-publishing by writers. Despite the bad publicity Napster has gotten, its New Artists Program was designed to help unsigned musicians find producers. Unfortunately queer music and writing can be hard to scope out at straight-dominated sites, but there are also queer and alterna-

ing a diverse group of new artists, who "struggle to maintain visibility in the presence of the commercial industry's push for 'the next big thing' and media-induced superstars." To counteract the mainstream music industry's narrowness, the site serves as a clearinghouse for alternative music and lyrics and as a connection between individual artists and local radio stations, performance venues, and stores.

Many individual lesbian and gay writers now have their own Web sites to feature their work. Some may start following the lead of Stephen King, who recently bypassed his publisher and started offering a download of the first chapter of his novel-in-progress for \$1 at his Web site. "My friends," King says gleefully, "we have a chance to become Big Publishing's worst nightmare."

But Web sites are expensive to launch and maintain. And, although there are queer zines and writers' groups online, there

But Web sites are expensive to launch and maintain. And, although there are queer zines and writers' groups online, there aren't any self-publishing sites out there specifically for queer writers yet. We need them.

tive sites beginning to do similar work.

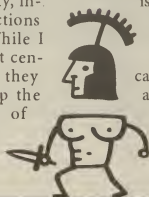
Mistmaker.com, for example, bills itself as the largest alternative hip hop Web site, and you can find gay lyrics and recordings there as well as articles about queers in hip hop. After all the press that Eminem's lyrics have gotten lately, it may surprise you to learn that hip hop isn't synonymous with homophobia. There is, in fact, a large queer hip hop and rap community, offering an alternative to the anti-gay hatred that mega-artists like Eminem and Dr. Dre espouse. Another online hip hop group, phatfamily.org, produces lyrics and music "with a queer-positive agenda" and keeps a "Dis List" of all the hip hop and rap artists who have spewed anti-gay lyrics.

San Francisco-based Green Girl Records (www.claritystudio.com) is dedicated to promot-

aren't any self-publishing sites out there specifically for queer writers yet.

We need them. We need the new technology equivalent of the publishing houses our community set up 20 years ago, an xlibris.com for queer writing. Maybe there's an opening for A Different Light and other lesbian and gay bookstores that have recently experienced hard times with in-store sales to create online self-publishing arms that could both increase income and help develop the new, alternative queer voices that lesbian and gay readers need to hear. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven published books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com. For more Lesbian Notions, visit www.planetout.com.



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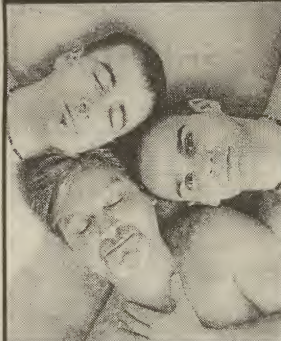
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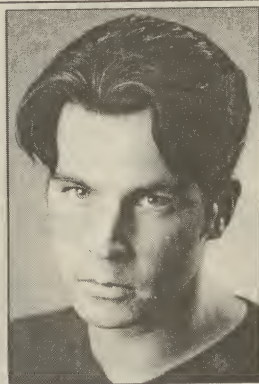
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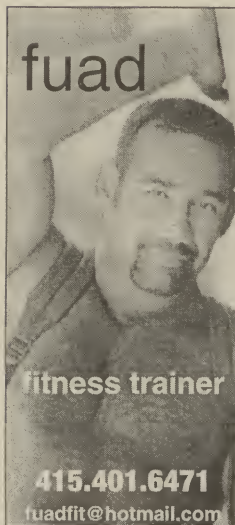
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Toy soldiers

by Jane Warner

3 000 block of Market, August 24, 9 p.m.: A woman getting into her parked car fronting her residence was approached by two men who pounded on the car's passenger window with a gun. The window shattered and one of the men reached in the car and took the woman's purse. In the haste to get away, the suspect left the gun on the seat of the car. The assailants got into an older silver boxy hatchback and drove westbound on Market.

Police submitted the gun for fingerprints and determined it was a silver b.b. gun replica.

The robbers are described as African American, 18-25 years old, both six feet tall, wearing dark

clothing. The suspects are thought to be the same men responsible for numerous armed robberies in the neighborhood lately.

Self serve

Union 76 gas station, 2175 Market, August 26, 5:30 p.m.: The owner of the gas station reported that six days earlier, a man had moved into a taxi cab stored on the station lot and refused to leave. The man often panhandled customers and ignored the owner's warnings not to live in the cab.

Officers found the man sleeping on the cab's rear seat, which was covered with garbage and leftover food. Among the debris were several wallets, suit cases, power drills, and other miscellaneous items.

The man told police that a friend owned the cab, although he couldn't remember his friend's name. Booked for trespassing was Ronald Foster, 40.

Teeny basher

18th and Collingwood, August 23, 12:10 a.m.: A 17-year-old teenager reported that while walk-

ing on 18th near Collingwood, a man approached him from behind, grabbed him by the neck, and threw him down. The assailant threatened, "If you call the police, I'll kill you." The suspect took the teenager's Sony PlayStation, backpack which contained a Muni fast pass, 15 compact discs, a CD player with headphones, and \$1.75 in change. The suspect was described as a white male in his 20s with yellow spiked hair. The suspect was later apprehended when the victim recognized him in front of 150 Collingwood on August 25. Arrested for two counts of strong-arm robbery and lying to police was Jimmy Edwards, 19.

Quicker picker upper

Collingwood Park, August 23, 4:40 a.m.: A man reported meeting another man in the Cafe and the two agreed to have sex. The pair left

the club and went to Collingwood Park. While on the ground, the man realized his wallet was missing and asked his date if he had it. The suspect gave him his wallet back minus \$65. The victim demanded the money. The suspect pushed

him, saying, "I need \$40 more." They walked to the Castro and Market Bank of America ATM and the suspect demanded the victim take out cash. No money was in

his account, so the suspect - described as African American, 26 years old, 5 feet 9 tall, 170

pounds, with a shaved head, goatee, and wearing a blue shirt with Jordan across the front and back - left the scene, last seen walking westbound on Market. ▼



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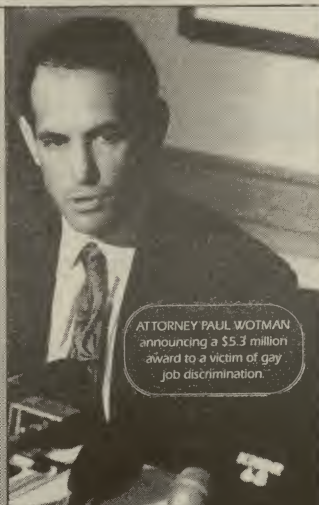
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Clubs

◀ page 2

"The SFDP's present practice is to cite all incidents which they believe are related to a club as evidence of negligent management," the jurors wrote. "Even incidents which take place outside of a club's premises and over which club management has little or no control, such as car break-ins in alleys on nearby streets or 'suspicious' persons hanging around the club's premises, are cited in the police complaints and permit hearings to suspend or revoke a club's permits. Anonymous third-party complaints about a club may also be used to institute permit suspension or revocation proceedings."

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno told the B.A.R. that he was "very pleased" by the Grand Jury

report. Leno has been working on developing a better system to regulate nightclubs for a year. Recently passed legislation introduced by Leno prohibits police from using 911 calls for emergency medical assistance against a club. Leno's legislation also requires after-hours clubs provide free cool drinking water to patrons.

Leno is drafting legislation to put the permit process in the hands of an independent entertainment commission.

"The Grand Jury gives credence to our efforts," Leno said. "It makes no sense that the permit agency is also the law enforcement agency."

Club owners had high praise for the jurors.

"They impressed me as being dedicated, concerned people," said the Endup's owner Carl Hanken who was interviewed by the panel

late last year.

"I feel vindicated but I'm not gloating about this," he said, adding that the Endup suffered a "huge blow" when it had to shut down for 35 days, from mid-April to mid-May this year, leaving employees temporarily out of work. Hanken said he looks forward to a change.

"The permit process is one of the stumbling blocks to being able to run a successful business in the city," said Hanken.

The Grand Jury's recommendations require a response from the Board of Supervisors, the San Francisco Police Department, and the mayor's office but its opinions have no force of law and are simply suggestions. The jury is made up of 19 private citizens who volunteer for a year to examine the city's operations. The after-hours club issue was one of 16 topics examined by the panel. ▼

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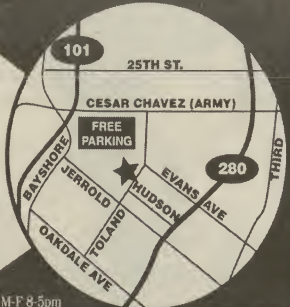
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COMMUNITY NEWS

E. Bay Gay Mardi Gras is Sunday



Jane Philomen Cleland

Singer Gwen Avery kicked off opening ceremonies last Saturday, August 26 for the fourth annual Gay Mardi Gras at Lake Merritt in Oakland. After 30-plus years of performing, Avery's CD will be released this Sunday during the Gay Mardi Gras festival. Most of Sunday's Pride events will take place at Preservation Park, at Clay and 12th streets, from noon to 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 (\$2 less than last year) and attendees can enjoy five entertainment stages as well as other activities. For more information, call (510) 663-3980.

DPH data

◀ page 1

narly frustrating for those who have tried to investigate the controversial new HIV rates that have branded San Francisco as having a "sub-Saharan" rate of infection — is the fact that the very HIV indicator supposedly pointing to the gay male surge in HIV is nowhere to be found on this month's STD report issued by DPH.

The San Francisco Monthly STD Report, issued every 30 days by DPH, has for years included a category for male rectal gonorrhea cases. Yet this month, on the heels of proclaiming a rise in such rates, DPH dropped male rectal gonorrhea cases from its July report.

"Routinely STD Services evaluates ... the content of the monthly report," said a statement issued last week by Jeff Klausner, director of DPH's STD services, the publishers of the monthly report. "With the limited context available for the monthly report, it was felt the information would be more useful with the expanded context afforded by the annual summary."

Yet the monthly reports, far from not providing a context, have regularly run rectal gonorrhea rates as compared to the previous year; reports for 1999 and 2000 each show the number of cases for the current month and the same month of the year before, as well as year-to-date cases. In fact the rectal gonorrhea "surge" that has reportedly occurred may be attributable to one month where the cases increased dramatically; in many other months the number dropped, remained the same, or increased by a couple of cases.

Given that one month may be responsible for a surge, skeptical members of the public this week wondered if July's rectal gonorrhea rates had plummeted, thereby challenging the DPH assertion that rectal gonorrhea was on the rise.



DPH's Jeff Klausner

Additionally, Klausner noted in his statement that "rectal gonorrhea is not a reportable disease," whereas gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, etc. are the official categories. But, this explanation doesn't explain the timing of the sudden omission. It is, after all, no less than bizarre that a health department pointing to a disease's increase would then proceed to leave that increase out of the public data.

But getting answers to these questions and speculations proved difficult. Klausner at first did not return several phone calls from the *Bay Area Reporter*, nor did Dr. Willi McFarland, the epidemiologist who originally alarmed the *San Francisco Chronicle* with his HIV estimates, then backpedaled and called his statements "unfortunate." Additionally, both Katz and Dr. Sandy Schwarcz, the director of AIDS surveillance at DPH, were on vacation this week. A representative from Klausner's office finally referred all inquiries to the media department, which had no information. Klausner then finally called the B.A.R. to say that he would request the information but that it would not be available before press time.

Therefore, the B.A.R. cannot report the actual number of male

rectal gonorrhea rates for the month of July, even though these rates were recently referenced as HIV indicators for the city's infection rate. Only one DPH representative seemed willing to acknowledge that excluding this data from the report was not wise.

"It was a mistake to leave those numbers off the report. The timing was unfortunate," Steven Tierney, HIV prevention director at DPH, told the B.A.R. "I have put in a request to re-include these numbers, because the gay community has a right to know them, particularly when they were just used to explain HIV rates."

Other city officials were equally concerned.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano told the B.A.R. that he has placed a call to DPH and is "looking into the matter."

Roma Guy, president of the San Francisco Health Commission, said that even if rectal gonorrhea is no longer included in the reports, the infection rates must be released to the public.

"My position would be if rectal gonorrhea is a marker, and prevention is key, then we need to find a way to inform the public about this marker," Guy told the B.A.R. "And we have a department that is supposed to handle that, so they're responsible."

The B.A.R. will report the actual rectal gonorrhea rates for July as soon as the information is released; Klausner has said that could be as late as next week. ▼

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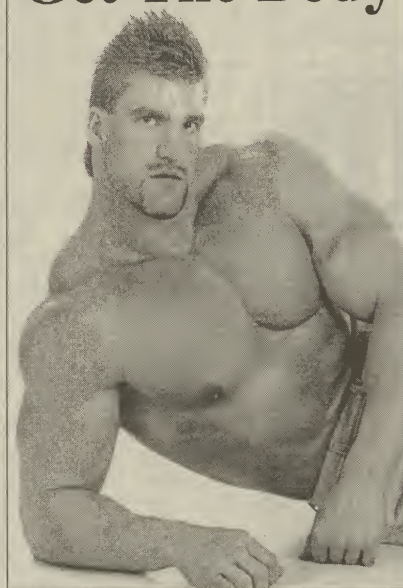
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Under One Roof sale begins tomorrow

by Katie Szymanski

Sidewalk sales take on a new meaning this weekend when Under One Roof, the gift store that donates its profits to AIDS organizations, unveils merchandise never before seen and not yet available through regular catalogs.

The "Labor Day Sidewalk Sale"

begins tomorrow, Friday, September 1, and lasts through Monday, September 4. The sale features decorative home accessories, gift ware, stationery, and garden items, fresh off the floor from the San Francisco International Gift Show. Other donations are courtesy of Western Exhibitors & George Little Management, Moscone Center, and vendors of the San Francisco Gift Center and

Jewelry Mart. Expect to find truckloads of tabletop accessories, linens, vases, frames, jewelry, and the like, all for 10 to 75 percent off the original retail price.

The shopping madness begins daily at 10 a.m. (11 a.m. on Sunday) at Under One Roof, 549 Castro Street, between 18th and 19th streets. For more information, call the store directly at (415) 503-2300. ▼

CUAV seeks hotline volunteers

by Katie Szymanski

It's a big commitment, but for those with a higher calling, the chance to help others is well worth it. Community United Against Violence is currently recruiting and interviewing interested applicants for its 24-hour support line. The support line is a great way for people to be directly involved in the fight against lesbian, gay, bi-

sexual, and transgender hate violence and domestic violence. The hotline provides crisis intervention, counseling, information, referrals, and support to victims of violence, and is largely dependent on volunteers.

Volunteer training begins on Saturday, September 9, and continues for the following three weekends for a total of 40 hours. Topics to be covered during training include an overview of anti-LGBT violence, domestic

violence, police response, legal aspects of hate crimes, sexual assault, crisis intervention, and risk assessment.

People of color and transgender people are especially encouraged to volunteer, and there is a special stipend for bilingual volunteers. No previous experience is necessary.

For more information, contact Progga Choudhury, CUAV's support line program director, at (415) 777-5500, ext. 323. ▼

Shelter

◀ page 4

"The idea is that they could get into the system," Leno said, suggesting that youth at the facility could be referred to drug treatment, or to Lark-Inn, the new emergency drop-in youth shelter in the Tenderloin/Civic Center area, until they were able to make a long-term commitment to the 15-bed Market site,

from which they could be placed in more permanent housing.

Serina emphasized that he does not know whether the compromises his group are securing to the Ark contract and conditional use permit would prove acceptable to others in the neighborhood.

Serina and others also met with Leno to discuss progress. Leno, who had wanted the facility to include an emergency drop-in shelter component, has championed the pro-

ject from the outset, when he and Supervisor Leslie Katz were accused in August 1999 of "bad process" in announcing their proposal for a drop-in shelter for 18-24 year old lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning youth.

"Until I see it in writing, I don't know," said Serina this week, referring to the final details presumably to be negotiated at a follow-up meeting of lawyers and some of the other stakeholders on August 31. ▼

Gary Virginia

◀ page 1

a monthly column for another gay publication, is a former San Francisco Mr. Leather and past recipient of the "AIDS hero" award, and has a diversity-oriented volunteer record that dates back to high school. He has celebrated the mayor-designated "Gary Virginia Day," an honor given in 1997 for his inclusiveness in activism, and has been known to advocate for more diversity wherever his volunteerism takes him.

"He's always been inclusive, and wants everyone to have a voice at the table," Susan Fahey, vice president of the board of Positive Resource Center, told the B.A.R. "He thinks of everybody."

Virginia may only have \$8,200 to spend and no big names to ride on, but that's okay by him. He just wants the public to understand how politics is influenced in the city, and how he plans to change that.

"There's not a lot of strong leadership on that board, and that's by design," said Virginia. "The mayor doesn't want independent people of skill to handle complex problems, and he'll appoint people who will not challenge him. I like Mark Leno, but for all his new legislation on affordable housing and neighborhood preservation, he doesn't seem to grasp the irony that it's the administration he endorsed that created all of these problems in the first place."

Candidate's plans

So what are Virginia's plans?

The candidate, whose past jobs have included directing an art gallery and coordinating funds for San Francisco State University, doesn't want to pit tenants against owners or chain stores against local businesses. He has solutions with a bigger picture in mind.

"We must preserve rent control but we can also stabilize our community if more of us own homes. For landlords not making any money from rent-controlled apartments, it would be a win-win situation for their tenants to be able to buy their tenancies in common. Unfortunately, the legislation before us seems to be either/or; I wouldn't have opposed tenancies in common [as the San Francisco Tenants Union has], but I would add a residency requirement that ensures the units purchased go to those that have been renting there for years."

On nonprofit displacement, Virginia proposes a nonprofit district to occupy a "safe zone" along a section of Market Street. On the recent controversy over neighborhood queer youth shelters, Virginia proposes a complete rehabilitation program where housing is combined with employment and the neighbors are involved in the process.

"When you try to pretend there's inclusion in planning when there's not, it's going to backfire every time," said Virginia. "Neighbors are fed up with Band-Aid solutions and want to see a program that works."

But Virginia noted that he also has some fun plans for the Castro, once he has addressed the issues.

"All my focus right now is on correcting the problems, but I've

got tons of really cool ideas I hope to work in there as well," he said.

One is a 24-hour news network that will broadcast breaking LGBT news to the streets of the Castro. Another is the addition of art and public history to the Castro, whether it be the return of the Keith Haring sculptures to Harvey Milk Plaza or the creation of Hollywood stars on the sidewalk for our own community heroes.

"There's such an opportunity to educate the public, especially with the F-line's expansion, and we don't even have a landmark," said Virginia, who added that he would also like to see a gay bank open in the neighborhood to "economically empower the community."

If elected, Virginia, a person living with HIV, will be returning to work after living off disability payments since 1995.

"There's a lot at stake for me, but this is my passion," he said. His campaign slogan - "The People's Choice" - and his logo - a sunburst, as in the ordinance for open government, summarize his feelings for the secret details that dictate city policy.

"It's an exciting time," said Virginia of the District 8 race. "This seat is pivotal, one that could change how things are going city-wide. I'm not a radical, but I do offer people another option." ▼

For more information on Virginia's campaign, contact him directly at (415) 626-5004, or write 156 Hancock Street #4, San Francisco, CA 94114, or e-mail VoteVirginia@aol.com.

The pros and cons of action plan

Barebacking, top to bottom, part 3

by Terry Beswick

Do not use a condom every time. Do not use a condom every time. Use a condom if you are an HIV-positive top having sex with an HIV-negative bottom," said Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the Department of Public Health.

Trumpeting new calculations showing an estimated 50 percent increase in the number of annual HIV infections in San Francisco, Katz has heralded a "new phase in HIV prevention" in the city.

In their recent "Response to Updated Estimates of HIV Infection in San Francisco, 2000," DPH and the AIDS Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco introduced a new "11-point action plan" designed to turn around new trends among some two dozen indicators of increasing unsafe sex among gay and bisexual men in the city (see sidebar).

The plan, largely conceptual in nature, centers around the idea that the gay and bisexual male community should once again "take ownership for the epidemic."

"It's not designed to be a finished product," said Steven Tierney, director of HIV prevention at DPH. "It's designed to be the start of a conversation."

Take my ownership

Chief among those who should take ownership, according to the plan, are two groups of people: HIV-positive top men, who should "take responsibility" for using a condom when fucking HIV-negative bottoms; and HIV-negative bottoms, who should "take responsibility" for using a condom when being fucked by HIV-positive tops.

"The best part is community ownership. That's the biggest key," said former Stop AIDS Project education director Dan Wohlfeiler, commenting on the draft plan. "But what worried me is the wonderful lofty goal of 'ownership,'" he said.

Wohlfeiler suggests that these types of steps like counseling and individual interventions, designed

because they are easy to implement and easy to measure outcome, make another kind of assumption: that people want to take ownership of the epidemic, as the plans directs.

"My initial take is that I'm glad that leadership is coming from somewhere," commented Buzz Bense, co-owner of the 8-year-old Eros sex club on Market Street that offers a host of HIV sex education workshops in conjunction with the Harvey Milk Institute. "Given that it's a draft I don't think that it's perfection incarnate."

Bense has also been a prevention activist in San Francisco for 15 years, and is a former member of the city's HIV Prevention Planning Council that divides up the CDC prevention pie.

"I made the statement a couple years ago that barebacking is the SM of the 1990s," said Bense. "It's the thrill of violating the norm."

"What I perceive in our community is it is totally uncool to criticize other people's sexual practices or their recreational drug practices," Bense added.

"I think there's a shifting of the norm," agreed Wohlfeiler. "This is a job that everyone has a part of."

"The message that condoms should be used 100 percent of the time wasn't real and wasn't a message that resonated with a larger part of the community," said DPH's Tierney.

John Newmeyer, an epidemiologist with the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic and a member of the HPPC disagrees. "There's a great democracy, a great equality in the message, 'use a condom very time,'" he said, noting that with the 11-point plan, "You have an approach of, 'Who's positive and who's negative?'"

Newmeyer felt that the plan was "rushed" and bureaucratic, but liked item #10, "Reality Check," because people need to hear that "HIV is a great hassle and embarrassment on this life."

Newmeyer was chiefly concerned with the lack of attention to the need for better condoms and microbicides that would make the act of protected anal intercourse more enjoyable,

without the latex condoms that currently cost a few cents.

Condoms are not only disgusting, they are grossly uncomfortable, say many gay men who've tried them.

Female condoms, made from polyurethane, like male condoms are designed and tested to prevent pregnancy. Many guys say "they simply make too much noise," according to Wohlfeiler, adding that one man reported to the Stop AIDS project that, "As I walked across the bar, I squeaked."

New devices and microbicides are clearly needed, according to gay men in San Francisco.

"The U.S. government has not approved a single device for us to use to protect ourselves," noted UCSF doctoral student and author Michael Scarce.

Local action

The HPPC is currently preparing a new three-year prevention

plan for the city, and community members hope it will go beyond the basics. "My biggest question about the 11 points is numbers two and three. No where in there does it say that if you don't know your partner's status, then don't assume," said Wohlfeiler.

DPH prevention so far, said Newmeyer, has failed. "The question from the public should be, 'Why are you still here?' The entire HPPC and the AIDS office should resign," said Newmeyer.

"It's a mixed bag, there's some success obviously," said Supervisor Tom Ammiano, asked whether the bureaucracy at DPH should be held accountable for the increased infection rate.

"I thought it was a little too neat," Ammiano said of the plan. "I was looking for the red ribbon, and I don't mean the ribbon that you wear." ▼

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The 11-point action plan

The following 11-point action plan was included in the "Response to the Updated Estimates of HIV Infection in San Francisco, 2000," jointly published August 9 by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the AIDS Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco. [The complete document may be viewed at www.dph.sf.ca.us].

1. Ownership. Take ownership of the epidemic, implementing culturally-specific, community-driven responses. Prevention is not done to a community, but by and with a community.

2. Condoms for HIV-positive tops with HIV-negative bottoms. Assume responsibility.

3. Condoms for HIV-negative bottoms with HIV-positive tops. Assume responsibility.

4. Know your current HIV status. Get HIV tested every six months if you've had risky sex or needle use. Seek care if you are HIV-positive.

5. Prevention for positives. Develop and expand HIV prevention programs that are designed by and for HIV-positive individuals.

6. Eradicate bacterial STDs in gay men. Rectal gonorrhea, syphilis, chlamydia.

7. Recovery. Expand drug treatment. Mature our substance abuse services to address real life issues facing gay men such as the relationship between speed use, Viagra, and unprotected sex.

8. Counsel. Rebuild the network and services for mental health and wellness.

9. Positive care. Get more HIV-positive people into care, on to appropriate antiviral treatments, on better treatment regimens, improve adherence, and provide individually tailored counseling and care.

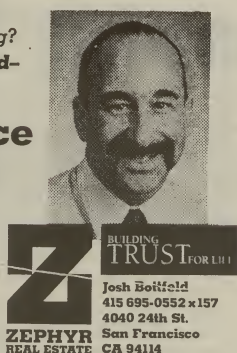
10. Reality check. It remains a fundamental truth that it is better to remain HIV uninfected. If you are HIV-negative, stay that way!

11. Gay men's health matters. It is important that HIV prevention be nested within a broader health agenda for the community. ▼

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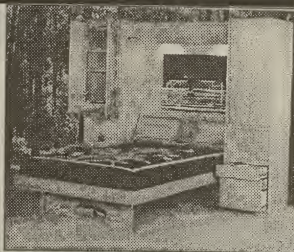
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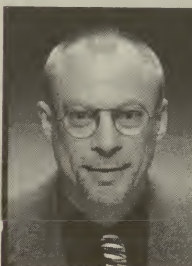
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How DPH cooked HIV infection numbers

by Terry Beswick

Get out your abacus, and follow along, if you can. There's some fancy math going on here.

"If you times the percentage of new infections by the size of the population, you learn how many people are newly infected in any year," Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz posited earlier this month. "The numbers in our presentation are very close to the numbers that were leaked earlier on, it was that we needed to do all of our homework."

Introduced by a concerned Mayor Willie Brown at an August 9 news conference, Katz was seeking to explain how his Department of Public Health, along with the University of California, San Francisco, had jointly arrived at, and leaked to the media, a new estimate that between 750 and 900 people will become infected with HIV this year in San Francisco - a minimum 50 percent increase from the 500 annual infections the two institutions had estimated in their last concerted effort three years ago.

Described by DPH epidemiologist Dr. Willi McFarland in press reports as a "surge" in HIV infections of "sub-Saharan African" levels, the shocking increase galvanized the creation of a new "HIV prevention plan," released earlier this month by Katz and UCSF AIDS Research Institute Director Dr. Tom Coates.

However, upon closer analysis, at least half of Katz's equation on which the much-ballyhoosed new estimate and plan are based appears to be highly vulnerable to critical scrutiny.

"Some of it's all so slight of hand. I don't find it to be precise," commented Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, who held a hearing on the matter after the mayor's press conference on August 9. "It's always going to be ambiguous."

"Follow the trend, that's what matters," pleaded Katz to reporters. "This has never been about whether San Francisco has 736 new infections or 719 new infections; that's not what matters. What matters is that infections are up."

"Condom use is down, everything else is up," Katz said.

And indeed, few experts in the DPH-UCSF-dominated world of HIV prevention in San Francisco have openly questioned the estimates, shared on August 8 with officials from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Yet the forecast of annual HIV infections in San Francisco, as with other population estimates, is seen as a tool to guide policy-making and budgeting, and the accuracy of the source documents used to contrive the estimates are critical to effective health planning.

The trend: X x Y = Z

As Katz noted, only the first half of the equation which produced DPH-UCSF's widely-publicized estimate is based on the "percentage of new infections." This percentage, which represents

the rate of new HIV infections in San Francisco, was derived from an in-house analysis of 25 of the best available disease incidence studies of San Francisco populations, many authored by UCSF or DPH researchers.

Larger studies and studies that were seen as better designed were purportedly given more weight during the May 24 consensus deliberations, which divined that the infection incidence rate among men who have sex with men in San Francisco had gone from 1.04 percent in 1997 to 1.68 percent in 2000. Among men who have sex with men and use injection drugs - a much smaller group - new infections increased from 1.99 to an estimated 4.58 percent per year, while HIV is actually decreasing among heterosexuals; notably, this decrease held true whether or not they inject drugs. (Among male-to-female transgendered women, the infection rate was estimated at 2.81 percent, though figures were not available from previous years for comparison, and were therefore not included in the DPH-UCSF bar charts.)

DPH-UCSF epidemiologists then multiplied these new, higher infection rates by the estimated size of the HIV-negative "at-risk" populations living in the city at the beginning of this year, resulting in the estimated number of new annual infections.

To achieve the second figure of their equation, however, the researchers first had to use an inflated estimate of the number of people who currently live in San Francisco. As with the first number of the DPH-UCSF equation (the estimated rate of infection), the second number was also arrived at by eyeballing available data sets from various sources, and synthesizing these into a wholly new approximation.

The problem is with one of the key sources used.

According to the Health Department's Policy and Planning office, all San Francisco departments and agencies, as in other municipalities across the state, use annual population estimates from the California Department of Finance to plan all programs and to guide policy-making decisions.

The state DOF estimates that as of January 2000, there were 801,400 people living in San Francisco, an increase of 1 percent from the 793,300 living here one year earlier - still significantly higher than the city's .1 percent increase estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau in its latest update prior to the 2000 census reports.

Presumably leaving out children and lesbians, the DPH-UCSF juggernaut estimated that there were 584,395 heterosexuals and gay men in 1997, while as of this year the city held 696,094 - an increase of over 100,000 people, or 20 percent, at a time when the vacancy rate hovers around 1 percent.

The total gay and bisexual male population went from 43,100 to 52,000 this year, according to DPH-UCSF - an increase of over 20 percent from 1997. In addition to the total population, this estimate is predicated in part on a couple of telephone surveys in San

Francisco and other cities, estimates that were revised upward to account for closeted homosexuals, and those with no telephone.

The researchers then estimated that HIV-negative gay men who do not inject drugs increased from 27,300 in 1997 to 34,014 this year, and HIV-negative gay men who do inject drugs increased from 2,665 to 3,120.

In any case, asked about the more accurate 1 percent rate of increase, which assumes that the displacement-challenged gay community is having no better luck finding apartments than straight people, McFarland calculated that the total number of gay and bisexual men in the city would have increased from 43,100 to just 43,500 this year.

And if DPH-UCSF had used the authoritative numbers used by all other local and state government agencies - the 1 percent rate of increase - McFarland said that rather than a total of 37,134 HIV-negative men who have sex with men in San Francisco in 2000, there would be 31,059.

After multiplying the lower estimates by their respective estimated increases in the rate of new infections, the total number of new infections among all men who have sex with men in San Francisco in the year 2000 would be approximately 528, still up from the 336 estimated in 1997, but 188 fewer men than the 716 cited this month by DPH-UCSF.

If the heterosexual population also increased by just 1 percent, rather than about 20 percent, one would arrive at a total number of new infections somewhere around 600, rather than the 900 number published everywhere from the *San Francisco Chronicle* to the *New York Times*.

"This is the down side," commented Ammiano. "As [former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett] Koop said years ago, 'this is a health issue, not a political issue.'"

Moving right along

The convoluted results are nearly impossible to evaluate without having been one of the few who participated in the private deliberations convened by DPH-UCSF. But according to McFarland, who helped formulate the figures, there is a discrepancy.

"It would be fair to say, if you went with the more 'authoritative' source and kept the gay population estimates comparable," McFarland acknowledged to the *Bay Area Reporter* after reworking the math, "you would go from 336 to 528 [new infections among gay males]."

"When you get into the numbers crunching you get into the trust issue," commented Ammiano. "I wouldn't be adverse to having another hearing."

Trust is indeed a key issue, not only in evaluating the new numbers announced by DPH/UCSF, but in evaluating the new "11-point action plan" published as a response to these numbers, a plan that begins with the word, "ownership."

"The appropriate question at this point I think for a reporter," said Katz, "is, 'so what is the city and county of San Francisco doing about it?'" ▼

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Dissidents ask, 'HIV or poverty?'

by Liz Highleyman

Last Thursday, August 24, nearly 100 people gathered to hear Christine Maggiore and Robin Scovill present their report from South Africa, which hosted the 13th International Conference on AIDS in Durban last month. The forum was sponsored by HIV dissident groups ACT UP/San Francisco and HEAL.

Maggiore, who was profiled in the August 28 issue of *Newsweek* magazine, is an HIV-positive mother who does not take antiviral drugs or give them to her son. She is a proponent of the "HIV dissident" view that HIV does not cause AIDS, and that anti-HIV drugs are harmful and may actually cause the collection of symptoms and illnesses labeled AIDS. Her book, *What if Everything You Thought You Knew About AIDS Was Wrong?* is widely distributed by the dissident community.

Unlike several recent local presentations on HIV and AIDS, Thursday's meeting was peaceful. Several AIDS activists were on hand to distribute materials debunking dissident views, but aside from some jeers during a brief question and answer period, no altercations ensued.

Maggiore, who attended the Durban conference as an exhibitor, said she was well received and that attendees — especially Africans — eagerly snapped up the nearly 500 pounds of printed materials she brought with her. During her trip, Maggiore had the opportunity to meet with such luminaries as Winnie Mandela, the former wife of African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, and South African President Thabo Mbeki. Mbeki generated considerable media controversy this spring when he appointed a panel of orthodox and dissident experts to examine the assumption that HIV causes AIDS. In response, some 5,000 international scientists released the Durban Declaration, which stated that scientific evidence was unequivocal in showing that the virus causes the disease.

Proponents of unorthodox views about AIDS in Africa, notably history of science professor Dr. Charles Gesheker, claim that widely disseminated statistics about HIV in Africa — what Maggiore calls an "epidemic of estimates and projections" — are not in accord with the number of actual AIDS cases. For example, in South Africa there are said to be 4 million HIV-positive people, yet only 12,000 confirmed AIDS cases, a ratio that diverges wildly from that seen in the U.S. Dissidents also claim that AIDS cases are often presumptively diagnosed without HIV tests, and that when HIV antibody tests are used, they can give false-positive results in people with a range of common conditions including malaria and pregnancy.

A key focus of Maggiore's talk and Scovill's documentary film was the widespread poverty in South Africa. Mbeki and others have emphasized that Africans lack the most basic healthcare infrastructure — including clean water and proper nutrition — and that these needs must be a higher priority than expensive anti-HIV drugs. The poverty in many developing countries has worsened in recent decades in part due to crushing debt and austerity measures imposed by international institutions such as the World Bank

and the International Monetary Fund, which often have the effect of further eroding already meager public health budgets. As Gesheker said in the film, Africans are dying of tuberculosis, malaria, malnutrition, dysentery, and other conditions that have the same classic symptoms as AIDS.

To a chorus of boos and a few cheers from the audience, Scovill's film portrayed Mark Wainberg of the International AIDS Society, the sponsor of the Durban conference, stating that renowned dissident Dr. Peter Duesberg was a "madman" and a "psychopath," and that those who share his views "should be thrown in jail." Duesberg was later shown discussing how AZT works by terminating newly forming DNA chains in a way that affects the host as well as the virus. Using AZT to treat HIV, he said, "is like shooting nuclear weapons at bunnies ... you may kill some bunnies, but the forest doesn't look very good afterwards." The film also showed Maggiore trying to convince Nkosi Johnson, an 11-year-old

AIDS treatment poster boy who spoke at the Durban conference, to stop taking his AIDS drug "cocktail."

After a two-hour presentation, little time was left for questions and answers, and moderator Ronnie Burk of ACT UP/San Francisco kept a tight rein on discussion and debate. One commentator emphasized that the forum's title "HIV or Poverty?" was a misnomer, and that AIDS was due to both. One audience member asked why people in Africa get opportunistic diseases associated with immune decline that were not seen prior to the epidemic, a question Maggiore failed to answer. Another asked why some people taking antiviral regimens seem to experience "miraculous recoveries" despite the drugs' many side effects. To this, Maggiore suggested that protease inhibitor drugs may inhibit the protease enzymes of fungi and other microorganisms that cause opportunistic infections, much as they may interfere with the protease enzymes of HIV and humans.



Robin Scovill, left, and Christine Maggiore at last week's HEAL meeting.

Overall, it was clear that Maggiore was largely preaching to the choir, and Burk got a round of cheers when he said "We don't need to hear about scientific mumbo jumbo." One audience member suggested that if she is really interested in a civil debate, Maggiore should disassociate herself from ACT UP/San

Francisco, which is known for disrupting forums held to discuss orthodox ideas about HIV and AIDS. Maggiore responded that she was "not a gay man who had seen her world crumble," and that while she would not do the things they do, she also "would not take away their means of expression." ▼



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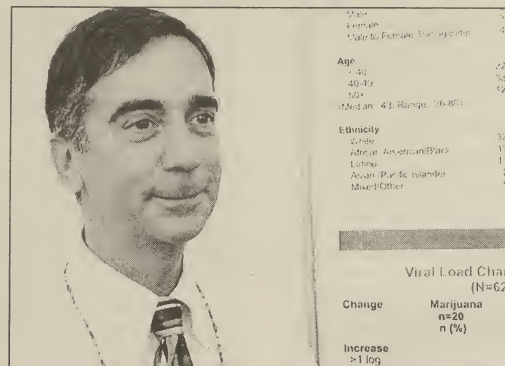
by Bob Roebr

Dr. Donald Abrams had all of the exuberance of a kid showing off a new toy as he explained his research on medical marijuana. The poster he presented at the recent 13th International Conference on AIDS in Durban, South Africa, "Short-term effects of cannabinoids on HIV-1 viral load," was the culmination of years of struggle just to get the trial approved. It is the first study of marijuana in people with HIV infection.

Cannabinoids, including THC, are the active chemical compounds in marijuana. Receptors or docking stations for cannabinoids are found on cells in the central nervous system and brain. More recently they have been identified on cells in the immune system. The short-term mating of cannabinoid and receptor produces the buzz or high of marijuana as well as the therapeutic effects ascribed to the natural product. It also has led some to say that marijuana is dangerous.

The foundation of Abrams' trial at the University of California at San Francisco was a safety study to see if there was any harmful interaction between marijuana and protease inhibitors when used together. The liver metabolizes both through the same pathway, the P-450 system. Another natural product, St. John's wort, which is metabolized the same way, has been found to clear some HIV and other drugs from the body faster than usual, so the potential for harmful interaction was there.

The 67 patients in the trial had stable HIV disease and were on a regimen that contained a protease inhibitor. The 25-day trial required that they be hospitalized the entire time, with no visitors, while the staff monitored every



Dr. Donald Abrams explains his groundbreaking medical marijuana study

calorie that entered their body and took frequent blood samples for lab tests.

The length of the trial was not arbitrary. Abrams knew that the impact of an effective antiviral therapy is easily seen within three weeks. He reasoned that "if there was going to be an adverse or beneficial effect of the cannabinoids, that would be enough time for us to see it."

A third of the patients were asked to smoke a marijuana cigarette with 3.95 percent THC three times a day. A third were given dronabinol, sold as the prescription drug Marinol, which contains THC. The remainder were given a placebo or fake pill that looked like the Marinol capsule.

"The bottom line is that there was no statistically significant difference between the three arms of the study," said Abrams. "That means it is not likely that marijuana or dronabinol increase viral load."

But there was an ever so slight increase in viral load in the placebo arm and a slight decrease in viral load in the other two arms.

Abrams theorized that "cannabinoids may be boosting the levels of protease inhibitors in the blood." An alternative explanation may be that they are modulating the immune system. Analyses of blood drug levels and immune function have not yet been completed, they may help answer the question.

AIDS wasting was a serious problem when the trial was designed several years ago. The smoking arm clearly demonstrated "the munchies" effect of marijuana as those patients increased both their caloric intake and weight. A similar but lesser effect was seen in the Marinol arm, something that had not been shown in earlier trials, though Abrams conceded that the trial was not designed with adequate size to prove these points conclusively.

Abrams wants to move on to studies that look at specific uses of marijuana. "There is some suggestion that marijuana may have an effect on pain, particularly neuropathic pain, which is not usually responsive to opioids." Neuropathy is a side effect associated with several AIDS drugs.

But nausea is his area of greatest interest. In screening participants for the trial, which required people to abstain from using marijuana for at least 30 days prior to enrolling, he found that many could not do it because they already were using marijuana to control nausea associated with their therapy.

"People asked if I was afraid that adherence would decrease if the patients are stoned," Abrams said. "But the truth might be that smoking marijuana might make people able to take their therapy better than if they don't smoke."

The "medical grade" marijuana provided for the trial by the National Institute on Drug Abuse has a THC content of less than half of what is commonly found on the street, according to an analysis of marijuana purchased at buyer's clubs nationwide.

Abrams believes that it may be better to use more potent pot because medical users will adjust their dose downward to what is required to relieve their nausea. And that will mean "less exposure to the potential [carcinogenic] effects of smoking."

Abrams is writing up a paper on the study for publication in a medical journal. He hopes that as "the first study of marijuana in people with HIV infection, it will be widely disseminated." Another handful of papers are likely on nutritional, metabolic and other aspects of the data-intensive trial. ▼

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NATIONAL NEWS

Lesbians and cancer confab in D.C.

by Bob Roehr

Lesbian health advocates will gather in Washington, D.C., September 21-23 for Healing Works: The First National Conference on Lesbians and Cancer. The Mary-Helen Mautner Project for Lesbians with Cancer is sponsoring the conference. It is the only national organization dedicated to that effort.

"It's the 10th anniversary of the Mautner Project and we definitely wanted to do more than have a party," said Kathleen DeBold, its executive director. In anticipation of that milestone they sent out a needs assessment survey to leaders in lesbian health issues. One of the consistent themes that organizers heard was the need for a face-to-face meeting to exchange information on lesbians and cancer.

Healing Works is "throwing a very wide net" to attract medical professionals, advocates, and cancer survivors themselves, said DeBold. "A lot of times researchers, activists, and health care providers don't talk to each other. Everyone is in their own little groups."

"The main purpose of the meeting is to set an agenda for lesbian cancer activists," she said, "to start a dialogue, to learn and share with each other." A long-term goal is to better integrate patients as partners in the research and health care processes.

"Often patients are the ones who are left out of these kinds of meetings and discussions," said DeBold. "But they are the reason why all of these organizations exist. Their inclusion is going to make a huge difference in the outcome."

The conference is drawing "unprecedented" support from agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, including the National Institutes of Health, according to organizers. The Human Rights Campaign and the Gill Foundation are among other financial backers.

"The level of support has been pretty overwhelming," said DeBold. "That has helped us to give scholarships to underserved populations - lesbian youth, seniors, women of color." The registration fee - \$250 in advance and \$350 at the door - can be partially or fully waived and there is limited support for travel and housing. Contact the Mautner Project for more information.

"The Mautner Project has been doing incredible work and very important work for the past 10 years," said Maureen S. O'Leary, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. "This next step - bringing everyone together for the conference - is also profoundly important. GLMA is certainly going to be there."

The Mautner Project also announced a new book *Coming Out*



Mautner's Kathleen DeBold

of Cancer: Writings from the Lesbian Cancer Epidemic. It is edited by Bay Area Reporter contributor Victoria A. Brownworth, an award-winning author who is a cancer survivor. The anthology of life stories about dealing with cancer includes contributions from Rachel Carson, Joan Nestle, Audre Lourde, and many others. The book will be released at the conference in September and will be available from the project and at bookstores. ▼

Contact the Mautner Project for more information at (202) 332-5536 or visit the Web site www.mautnerproject.org.

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GGBA dinner next month

by Terry Beswick

The Golden Gate Business Association, known among its 275 member businesses as the "first LGBT chamber of commerce," expects to link together hundreds of people at its annual fundraising dinner on Monday, September 11.

The group that is celebrating 26 years of serving as "a voice for the Bay Area's gay, lesbian, and supportive businesses" hopes to link up many more after the big-screen launching of the new Web site, www.GGBA.com, at the gala, reception, and fundraiser themed "Linking Business and Community."

But GGBA is all about hooking people up for meat-and-potatoes networking, and while Web pages are great for that, there's nothing like a little in-your-face schmoozing with some good grub, a bunch of gays and lesbians, and a little quality entertainment.

This year's event, replete with a huge buffet feast representing each of San Francisco's best neighborhoods for fine dining, will be held among the waterfalls of the glamorous Hotel Nikko at 222 Mason Street at O'Farrell. And the entertainment, emceed by the irrepressible Donna Sachet, Absolute Empress XXX, will be from Steel Jam and the Dixieland Dykes Plus Three.

Attendees will also have a chance to enter a raffle at the gala, with a trip to Puerto Vallarta among the top prizes.

GGBA will also be presenting its annual awards, for community service, business of the year, and member of the year, at the upcoming fete.

Last year, 350 attended the event at City Hall, and this year, the Nikko ballroom will allow a maximum of 350 attendees, though at press time, the event was not yet sold out. Deadline to make a reservation for the event is this Tuesday, September 5.

Founded in 1974, GGBA was the nation's first business organization founded by gay and lesbian entrepreneurs.

"It's a great opportunity to keep business amongst our community, and to support each other's businesses," offered event co-chair Barry Carpenter of City-Mutual Financial, by way of explaining why a busy business owner would want to link up with other GGBAers.

The group aims to support the growth and visibility of gay, lesbian and supportive businesses. "We provide a forum where our members can address their unique concerns and we promote human rights issues in the workplace and in our society at large through education and positive exposure," according to its new Web site. "GGBA offers guidance and mentoring to a new generation of gay and lesbian business leaders. We provide members with business referrals, professional insight, educational programs and a sense of camaraderie as they face the task of doing business in today's rapidly changing and increasingly challenging business conditions."

Tickets for the event start at \$85. ▼

To register for the event, or for more information, visit www.GGBA.com, or call (415) 441-3651.

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A non-judgmental approach with crystal

by Matt Sharp, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

Speed use is once again in the news. The recent Department of Public Health statistics on increasing HIV infections in gay men is causing concern that speed may be at least partially the cause of the rising infection rate. The data shows that the increase is correlated to the rising infections in gay men who are IVDU users. The rates in those men have changed the most, from 2 percent in 1997 to 4.6 percent in 2000. Those men are most likely shooting speed, not heroin, so, with these statistics, health officials believe that speed is contributing to the rise in HIV infections. Although some epidemiologists in town point to declining numbers of crystal users showing up in the city's emergency rooms, these statistics are not broken down by sexual orientation. Most observers think that crystal use, if not increasing, certainly continues to be at a very high rate in the gay community.

But in the era of HIV treatment, with people living longer, healthier lives, many have started or gone back to using speed and other party drugs after years of living through desperation and death. But the epidemic, even with the success of treatment for many, still often produces isolation, loneliness, and depression, which sometimes then leads people to turn to drugs. And, in the era of post sexual liberation, others use speed as a social lubricant to lessen inhibitions and allow greater sexual exploration and increased sexual freedom, which often includes barebacking, the unsafe activity of abstaining from condom use.

Whatever the reason, it is clear that speed is a popular trend. Everywhere you look, gay men are talking about its effects. In chat rooms, porn magazines, circuit parties, and certain S&M and leather scenes, there is discussion about prolonged evenings of speed use combined with the stimulatory effects of Viagra.

Tim (not his real name), a gay man concerned about his speed

bingeing told me that he definitely can relate his increased use to "the ability to party all night" and "experiment further into wilder sex." And he said, "once you start, you just want more, one feel-good scene perpetuates another."

Speed, also known as crystal, crank, crissy, or tina is methamphetamine, a psychostimulant that has powerful aphrodisiac effects on the brain. Adverse problems such as hypothermia, convulsions, and cardiovascular difficulties that may lead to death have been reported. The drug can also cause damage to the blood vessels in the brain, resulting in strokes. And the underlying problem with crystal is that it is highly addictive.

Speed use is related to geographic area where the drug is made in underground laboratories, where it is most available. The West Coast is known for higher prevalence of speed because of the many local labs and distribution routes. Some East Coast cities, such as Pittsburgh and Atlanta, are now experiencing their own speed epidemics among gay men.

Regardless of the trend in the use of crystal, there will always be gay men partying, while others may seek help with addiction or curbing their use according to their own individual lifestyles and personalities. There are lots of programs available to help with the situation, and non-judgmental opportunities to help the user help himself.

These non-judgmental programs are based on what is called harm reduction, because they seek to guide the client in ways to "reduce the harm" caused by their use of crystal, including exposure to STDs and HIV while on the drug. Harm reduction is more realistic and is especially important for HIV-positive men, who, while on crystal, may be exposing themselves to other pathogens, further weakening their impaired immune systems. Tim, an HIV-positive gay man, has tried several times to seek help with 12-step

and abstinence-only programs, but said, "They make me feel bad about myself and my use of speed, and I go out and want to use more, which replaces the guilt, and continues my habit."

One speed harm reduction program in San Francisco for men who have sex with men, regardless of how they identify themselves, is called the Stonewall Project. Organized in late 1997, the goal of the program is to provide a safe environment where men who have sex with men can learn to deal with their crystal issues without any stipulations, preconditions, or guilt-laden finger-pointing and blaming. It is a program where men are able to learn how to use crystal more safely, learn

to reduce their use, or stop crystal without having to give up other substances, or even end up stopping all substances.

Michael Siever, an AIDS activist, psychologist, and creator of the project, said, "After participating in Stonewall, many people decide to give speed up completely, but everyone decides for themselves within their individual and group counseling. It is more powerful when someone owns a decision, rather than forcing someone to fall in the cookie-cutter mentality of abstinence-only. Abstinence-only programs can be very boot camp; most gay men are rebels, so they don't do well in that kind of environment. The Stonewall Project applies gay men's sensibilities."

Siever has a long history of working with substance users. As early as 1991, he worked with Operation Concern, which was then more of a 12-step recovery program for anyone using any drugs. After growing frustration with abstinence-only programs, he advocated and pushed for the creation of the Stonewall Project from the city.

Stonewall is not alone in offering harm reduction to gay men who use speed. Siever said, "There is the Neon program in Seattle and the Van Ness House program in Los Angeles which runs an in-

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Supreme Court denies medical marijuana

by Liz Highleyman

On Tuesday, August 29, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against the provision of medical marijuana to California patients whose doctors recommend the herb. The 7-1 decision came as the result of an emergency request from the Clinton administration asking the court to postpone allowing a decision by U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer to take effect.

Breyer's July 17 ruling — which reversed his own earlier decision from 1998 — would have allowed the Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Co-op to provide marijuana to those with proof of medical need. This decision came after the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that "medical necessity" was a recognized defense against federal drug distribution charges, and asked the judge to reconsider his previous ruling. Breyer ruled that the federal government failed to

demonstrate why seriously ill patients should not have access to marijuana. The long-running case is an outcome of Proposition 215, the 1996 California initiative that allowed ill persons to grow and use medical marijuana for specific purposes; the proposition did not include provisions for the distribution of medical cannabis.

The federal government first made an appeal to the 9th Circuit Court, which denied the request on August 21, prompting federal lawyers to petition the higher court. In its emergency request to the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice claimed that Breyer's ruling would "promote disrespect and disregard for an act of Congress that is central to combating illicit drug trafficking and use by giving a judicial stamp of approval to the open and notorious distribution of substances to potentially thousands of users without any of the strict controls required." Federal lawyers further as-

serted that the ruling would create "incentives for drug manufacturers and distributors to invoke the asserted needs of others as a justification for their drug trafficking." The Oakland club argued against the government's request, claiming that there was no evidence to suggest that medical cannabis laws hampered the prosecution of drug laws.

The DOJ initially made its request to Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who referred the matter to the full Supreme Court. The single dissenting vote came from Justice John Paul Stevens, who said the government had "failed to demonstrate that the denial of necessary medicine to seriously ill and dying patients will advance the public interest or that the failure to enjoin the distribution of such medicine will impair the orderly enforcement of federal criminal statutes." Justice Stephen Breyer recused himself because Charles Breyer, who issued the district court ruling, is his brother. ▼

OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Tomata du Plenty



Tomata du Plenty was born David Xavier Harrigan in New York on May 28, 1948, and died in San Francisco on August 21, 2000. Tomata led a full life of artistic achievement. He grew up in Los Angeles. In the early 1970s in San Francisco he appeared in the Cockettes movie *Tricia's Wedding*. In Seattle, he co-founded a performance group, Ze Whiz Kidz. In New York in 1974 he performed in the Palm Casino Revue. Back in Seattle, he was in a band called The Tupperwares that metamorphosed into The Screammers, a Los Angeles-based punk band using keyboards rather than guitars. The band's logo, a caricature of Tomata screaming, was later appropriated by

ACT UP. His film projects included "Population One." In the early 1980s he began showing his paintings in L.A. He moved to Miami Beach in 1989, where he continued making and showing art. He relocated to New Orleans in the late 1990s. His paintings appeared in the 1999 punk retrospective "Forming" in Los Angeles. In March, 2000 he had an art show at Cafe Vesuvio in San Francisco called "Black Leather Kerouac." His art can be seen at Tomataduplenty.com. Memorial plans are still under way.

Clive Phillips

April 12, 1951 – July 12, 2000

Our dear friend, Clive Vaughan Phillips, passed away July 12, 2000. He was born to Iris Vaughan Phillips & Cyril Phillips in Portcawl, Wales, where he spent his formative years. Growing up, Clive adored Natalie Wood, Petula Clark, and Ann Margret, which remained life-long obsessions.



In his late teens Clive moved to London where he held various jobs in the theater before settling on wardrobe. In this position he was personal dresser to such theatrical luminaries as Sir

Laurence Olivier, Sir John Gielgud, Michael Redgrave, Tom Courtney, Sir Alec Guinness, and Dame Edna.

In the mid 1970s, Clive moved to San Francisco where he worked at Gramophone Records coordinating in-store appearances for such stars as Martha Reeves, Sylvester, and Divine. In the mid 1980s, Clive toured Australia with *La Cage Aux Folles*. He also dressed Bill Cosby in the film *Leonard*, Pt. 6. Clive then became involved with the work he loved most, working at San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Ballet. With the Opera, Clive was a

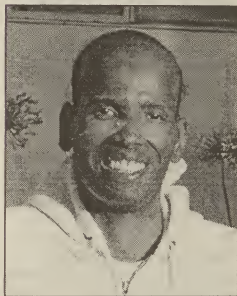
principal dresser. At the Ballet, Clive acted as wardrobe coordinator in addition to his duties as a dresser.

Clive shared his love for the movies and his own special kind of music with friends by making countless videos and tapes. His love for the city included long walks at the beach, sharing sunsets with those he loved, and of course endless theatrical gossip. He kept up a regular correspondence with many friends all over the world. There'll never be another Clive.

He is survived by his very special mother, Iris, in Portcawl, Wales, by his brothers and sisters in the San Francisco Theatrical Wardrobe Union Local 784, and by all his many friends — he will always hold center stage in the theater of our lives.

A celebration of life will be held for Clive on Sunday, September 10, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 642 Broderick. It will be a potluck, and we ask you to bring your favorite "Cliveisms." For more info, call Phil Perry at (415) 255-7632.

Kee Kee Sellers, compassionately released, dies at 32



Kee Kee Sellers

by Katie Szymanski

Keeh Wayne Sellers, a transgendered woman also known as Kee Kee, lost her battle with AIDS-related complications on August 21. She was 32.

Sellers died two months after being granted compassionate release from Corcoran State Prison in California, a men's facility where she had been housed since 1997. Toward the end of her stay there, she had lost 50 pounds and was unable

to walk, yet her compassionate release was a hard-fought battle even after prison staff and former prosecutors endorsed her right to die among family members. The release process involved many letters and phone calls of support nationwide. Although California law calls for the compassionate release for prisoners with less than six months to live who pose no threat to society, Department of Corrections Director Cal Terhune denied the request, then denied it again on appeal. The release was finally granted on

June 23, and Kee Kee spent the last two months of her life surrounded by her family.

Kee Kee is survived by several close family members, a partner of three years, and many friends. Her last days were spent laughing, eating barbecue, and visiting with loved ones, and her life was a true example of how a positive outlook can make all the difference. ▼

Survive AIDS

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novative program with street youth, many of them sex workers, using art therapy and other interesting ways to engage people." When asked what more should be done to help the program, Siever, who sits on the city's Substance Abuse Treatment on Demand Planning Council said, "There needs to be help for people when they want it – if you don't catch people when they ask for help, they are often lost for a long time.

Treatment on demand is crucial."

Funded by the Department of Public Health for only \$150,000 a year, Stonewall has a small staff: Siever as part-time director, two part-time counselors, and one part-time administrative assistant. "Obviously, funding is critical because we now can only work with about 25-35 people and there are always others on the waiting list," Siever said.

He concluded, "There needs to be more public discussion of the role of drugs in our lives in general. Our moralistic society needs to open up to listening, understand-

ing, and funding of innovative programs that can actually help people in the ways they want help." San Francisco has been the leader of programs such as these, now the Department of Public Health must ensure their continuity and expansion to match the trends. ▼

For more information about the Stonewall Project, including drop-in hours, call (415) 502-1999. The project is located at 3180 18th Street Suite 202 in San Francisco.

Toni Young

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try to sell off our problems."

Young, 37, an African American lesbian, said she has yet to meet Superintendent Arlene Ackerman. The new superintendent started work earlier this month after running public schools in Washington, D.C., where Young once lived. Young has more than 14 years of experience in national and local HIV/AIDS work. She founded the National Women's and HIV/AIDS Project and worked for the National Women's Health Network, Metro TeenAIDS, and the National Association of People with AIDS, where she served as an assistant director in the late 1980s.

Currently, Young works as an organizational development consultant.

Young said that one of her goals if elected will be to develop effective partnerships between the school district and city, state, and federal agencies, as well as include parents and students. "Last year was the end of the parents' advisory council," Young pointed out, adding that she would like to either get the advisory panel up and running or establish a similar mechanism for parents and students to communicate with the board.

So far, Young has been busy campaigning; on Monday, she re-

ceived the endorsement of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club's political action committee. She has also secured the endorsements of San Francisco Supervisors Mark Leno, Gavin Newsom, and Amos Brown.

Young was critical of one recent change in the makeup of the school board. Last week, board member Steve Phillips resigned; the move allows Mayor Willie Brown to appoint someone to serve out the few remaining months of Phillips's term. The likely person to be appointed is

Shawn Richard, who's also a candidate for the school board. The move would give Richard the advantage of incumbency.

"I think it sends the wrong message," Young said. "It sends the wrong message to students. We do have to struggle. If there is a commitment to diversity on the board, the mayor should be behind all the diverse candidates." ▼

People interested in Young's campaign can call (415) 206-9669.



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out there, you are,
by far, my favorite."

Michael R. Shelton
1955 - 1998

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in our dreams
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Behavior

by Jim Provenzano

The Dodgers win the penance! The Dodgers win the penance!

Penance, that is, from what has been widely reported as thuggish and lesbo-phobic behavior on the part of security guards and prudish fans, who merely had to voice an anonymous complaint to have two smooching women

kicked out of Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles during an August 8 game against the Chicago Cubs. Danielle Goldey and Meredith Kott weren't even tongue-dancing, according to reports, just kissed a few times after celebrating a run by their team (actually Rupert Murdoch owns the Dodgers, but anyway).

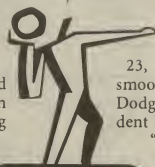
Apparently the sight of two women kissing distracted a few irate fans from their view of professional baseball players scratching their crotches, spitting and hurling bats each other.

The women's friends, avowed heterosexuals, were also kissing, but not ejected. It took eight guards to oust the lesbian couple. They didn't resist. It just took that many oafs doing pretty much nothing but husking peanuts to surround the women, threaten them, and then confusedly take them out of the stadium without explaining why, other than making vague references to "lewd behavior."

Hurling racist invective, guz-

zling beer, wearing foam cheese on your head, and extensive burping are appropriate fan behavior for a game, apparently. Sapphic smooching is not.

In a highly orchestrated show of good intentions, Dodgers representatives turned tail quickly, and were overtly apologetic, particularly when faced with a completely justified lawsuit from the women's attorney, Bernie Bernheim.



Sports Complex

In an effusively apologetic press conference August 23, where the women smooched while wearing Dodgers caps, team president Bob Graziano said he "was troubled ... because of what it implied about the Dodger organization. It means a lot to me that you are Dodger fans," he told Goldey and Kott. "We will continue to do the right thing."

And they have, by offering thousands of tickets to various gay organizations throughout the greater Los Angeles area.

"I think they stepped up to the plate more than they had to," Goldey told the Associated Press. "All we wanted was an apology ... I'm very proud to be a Dodger fan."

"I'm extremely happy with the results," Kott said.

The Dodgers organization has a non-discrimination and domestic partners policy. Sensitivity training is said to be undertaken for the offending employees. I



Queer Nation's guerrilla-style GLBT Day at Dodger Stadium in 1991.

wonder what the players think?

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation even got on the gay baseball bandwagon by organizing Gay and Lesbian Day at Dodger Stadium, this Wednesday. Proceeds will benefit the group, which claims that this will be "the first-ever Gay & Lesbian night at Dodger Stadium."

Actually, Queer Nation had its own GLBT Day at Dodger Stadium in 1991, after a similar incident occurred. While less publicized (possibly because the harassed homos couldn't afford lawyers), the event is documented in this week's festive photo.

Despite GLAAD's usual revisionism, the event should be amusing. Tickets are only \$10 and proceeds will benefit GLAAD's efforts to give awards to Paramount-owned TV shows with token gay characters. The game

will be held on September 6, at 7:05 p.m. A map and parking instructions will be included with your ticket purchase (in case you're one of those gay people who only goes to sports events when the space has been de-homophobicized).

One thousand seats are designated in the stadium's reserve level for GLAAD and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, "so you will be amongst family!" (Meaning you won't have to sit with the drunken straights who'll throw peanut shells at you). Contact Cecilia Sapp at (323) 658-6775, ext. 33 or e-mail sapp@glaad.org.

I recall attending a Montreal Expos game in 1989 with about 300 fellow ACT UPers. We handed out about 10,000 condoms (with few complaints), and sat up in the cheap seats, swilling beers and sodas.

We even got on the AP photo loop and on TV, hoisting our 50 foot banner, "NO GLOVE, NO LOVE." Now, that was a sporty event.

Of course, the Dodgers debacle would have been a different story had it been two men kissing, something on the order of "Gay men beaten to bloody pulp at baseball game." Baseball fans and other avowed hets always seem a bit more tolerant of lesbians than they are of gay men, except for the witty eunuchs on TV that GLAAD adores.

If only a few Dodgers and Cubs players would smooch on the mound, then utter panic would break out.

Someday. Someday.

Soulless Survivor

If you've been living in a happy media-free bubble — or Solvang — you don't know that Richard Hatch, 39, won the *Survivor* TV show contest, and a million dollars and a car. Hatch, who came out in the first episode, quickly became the contestant everyone loved to hate. In his professional life, he gets paid to team-build and conflict-resolute.

On the remote island off Borneo, lies and subversion were prominent in his skills set.

"He played the game better than anyone else," said *Survivor* creator Mark Burnett, who is of course, the spawn of Satan.

"I didn't think he'd win it," said Andrew Gold, co-owner of Golds Wood Fired Grill & Cafe, where Hatch ate almost daily while he trained for the show. Gold now advertises this factoid on his menu by offering "The Daily Hatch," a special rat and snake soup.

That must be how Hatch got his amazing physique. What did Mr. Gold do, serve him fried rat? Rat tart? Rat soufflé?

Ever since I found out it wasn't

Battlestar Galactica's Richard Hatch strolling nude on the beach (now THAT's must-see TV!), I never watched the show, and never will. It's awful, disgusting, the lowest form of entertainment, and brings our culture down to its worst Darwinian denominator. It's competition at its crudest, and offers an amoral lesson to a culture in decline. Caligula would be proud. I won't be at all surprised if the next installment includes executions. George W. Bush can host.

Further, the celebritization of talentless nobodies proves actors superfluous when so many fools are eager to expose their personal stupidities for general consumption. Andy Warhol is giggling in his grave, having predicted this devolution.

Hatch, however, still has needs, and is happy to announce them. He's looking for a hubby! Yes, the paunch king's got the nesting craving now that he's perfected his rodent recipes.

From his nude appearances on the *Late Show with David Letterman* to his product endorsements and *Entertainment Tonight* interviews, our culture has Hatched a monster; a devious, egotistical, arrogant gay man willing to do anything for money.

Looks like we've found our next March on Washington director.

Dessert island

Team San Francisco will co-host the 19th Sports Day on Angel Island, this Saturday, September 2. Bring your running shoes, bicycles, volleyballs, sunscreen, and food to share. Meet at San Francisco's Pier 41 for the 8:30 a.m. ferry. This is a chartered ferry on the Blue and Gold Fleet. The last returning ferry is at 4:40 p.m. Meet at Drawsite Picnic Area just off Ayala Cove near the ferry landing.

Tickets are \$10 per person and are available at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street between 17th and 18th streets (415) 431-0891. Tickets will also be sold at the Saturday runs at SF FrontRunners and BayLands FrontRunners. Info: e-mail glenn.galang@att.net to make other arrangements. For additional Angel Island information: www.blueandgoldfleet.com, www.angelisland.org, or www.angelisland.com.

Oaklandish

FrontRunners will have a run around Lake Merritt this Saturday, September 2. For more info on them, visit their site at <http://www.mdcmultimedia.com/ebfr/>.

Don't forget the sports fest at Laney College, Sunday, September 3. Wrestling, martial arts, and other festivities will be presented as part of East Bay Gay Pride. Admission is \$10 for the day.

Wrestling and martial arts demonstrations, clinics and light competition will be offered by Golden Gate Wrestling and Triangle Tai Kwan Do Club from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.gggwc.org.

TTKDC's seminar will offer experienced martial artists as well as novices an opportunity to work with up to five different instructors and different martial arts styles. Each instructor will teach a one-hour seminar. For additional information contact TTKDC at (510) 222-0551, or visit their Web site at <http://hometown.aol.com/ttkdc/index.html>. ▼

I KEEP FORGETTING WHEN TO TAKE MY HIV MEDICATIONS!

A research study of an electronic pager system which reminds HIV positive patients when and how to take their HIV medications.

- For those patients who decide to start a regimen of HIV medications, taking the pills at the proper time and in the correct way is crucial to keeping viral load and side effects down.
- Given that current treatment for HIV can require someone to take up to two dozen pills daily, each with different requirements, it is not surprising that patients have difficulty with taking their medication.
- One study has shown that missing just one out of 20 doses of HIV medication can open the door for resistance and treatment failure.
- Studies repeatedly report that the most common reason for patients not taking their medication is simply "forgetting."
- One half of study patients will be given an electronic alert (which looks just like a pager) which will alarm when it is time for a medication, tell them what medication to take and how to take it.
- All participants in the study get to keep a pager at the end of study
- Compensation also provided for this 2 year long study.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please call Dr. Chris Eden at (415) 759-4126 or email: ceden@marcusconantmd.com

Research Unit of Marcus A. Conant, M.D.
350 Parnassus Ave Suite 808
San Francisco

HEALTH RESOURCES

COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

Send health resource listings to:
Community Health
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

ACT UP/SF

Discussion groups first and third Sundays of every month from 3-5pm Contact: 864-6686.

Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut, 282-9603.

AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project

Concerned about HIV, dating, sex, intimacy? Free individual and group counseling & support services for HIV-negative, HIV-positive, and untested gay and bisexual men. For info, call 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel

Assists persons w/HIV on legal problems, incl. wills, powers of attorney, benefits, more. Free or reduced fee. 291-5454.

AIDS Memorial Book

Monthly workshops: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Project of the East Bay

HIV education & prevention programs, case management, emotional & practical support for people in Alameda Co. 1755 Broadway, 2nd floor, Oakland. (510) 643-7979

AIDS Support Group

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group provides practical, emotional, and, where desired, spiritual support for persons living with AIDS without regard to religious preference, age, race, gender, sexual preference, or disability. Volunteer training provided. For info or to volunteer, call (415) 863-1581.

AIDS Treatment Education Network
Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 624-6237.

Alternative Family Project

"We Are Family," on-going support group for gay men. Tues. & Thurs., 7pm. Call for no-fee intake. 436-9000.

ARIS

AIDS resources, information and services of Santa Clara county, drop-in support group meetings. 486-293-ARIS.

Asians & Leather

Support group for gay Asian men who identify with leather. Info: c/o Pacific Friends, PO Box 641008, or e-mail lch1415@aol.com

Baker Places

Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

BAPHR

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights offers support services to med. students, physicians. 558-9353.

Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle

Nonprofit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Breast Cancer Action

Carries the voices of people affected by breast cancer to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. For info, call 243-9301.

Cancer Support Group

Based in San Francisco and offers a caregivers support group, a grief group, and counseling for cancer patients, their friends, and families. For info call Brian at 422-2137.

Center for Special Problems

Groups for people with HIV: drop-in for women, women's therapy group, co-ed drop-in and psycho educational group. 1700 Jackson. Call for info: 292-1500.

Continuum HIV Day Services

An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, activities. 241-5500.

Clinica Esperanza

The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Coming out support group for women
Meets Weds., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

Coming out support group for men
Meets Weds., 5:30-7pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D. Info: 626-7000.

Community United Against Violence
Provides services for LGBT victims of domestic violence and hate crimes. Also needs volunteer counselors on 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500. For emergency 24-hour crisis line, call 773-HELP.

Comprehensive Outreach Project for Asian Substance Abusers
Reduced risk of HIV infection thru counseling and treatment referrals. Multilingual. 561-9404.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
Gay and lesbian Jewish synagogue. Services every Friday at 8:15pm. 209 Dolores Street at 16th Street. 861-6932.

Connections
Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focusing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color. Free. Call 356-8114.

Counseling Services for Drinking Drivers

Groups for gay men who are court- or DMV-mandated to attend a multiple offender program. Chemical Awareness & Treatment Services: 241-1187.

Crystal Meth Anonymous

Meetings every: Wed., 8pm at The Meeting Place, 1874 Market; Sat., 9pm, and Sun., 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

Deaf AIDS Center

At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Diabetics

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Dimensions

Comprehensive health, mental health, and substance abuse services for LGBTQQ youth ages 12-25 in a safe, supportive environment. Sliding scale based on income. No one is turned away. Every Thursday from 5 to 8pm at 3850 17th Street, at 18th, in the Castro. Drop-in or by appt. Call 487-7589.

Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group

Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. evs, 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services
Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. (650) 572-9702.

Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center
Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

FABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Full Circle Community Counseling

We offer low-cost services which support, encourage, and challenge people to realize their unlimited potential. Take the step to go beyond the pain of your past to experience the freedom of who you really are. Offices in SF and the East Bay. 255-0100.

Gay Dads

Gather to talk about your kids, lovers, ex's, etc. Joel Wechsler, MFCC, Alternative Family Project. 436-9000.

Gay Greeks

Support/social group for Greek-American gays and lesbians. Meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month. Call 551-1688 for location and time.

Gay & Lesbian Asylum Project

Seeks volunteer to coordinate outreach to immigrants with asylum claims based on sexual orientation. Call Aaron Myers, 641-9276.

Gay/Lesbian Christian Scientists

Sharing support, insight, metaphysical science. Meets 2nd Monday of month. Info: Craig, 281-0636.

Gay Men's Meditation Group

Yoga philosophy, silent meditation, discussion of integrating sexuality with spirituality. Free. Sundays, 4pm. Call 431-7575.

Gay Men's STD/Vo Clinic

Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 and older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at 24th, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Hepatitis B Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men. Free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

Hepatitis C Helpline

Peer support for persons afflicted with hep C. Call 834-4100.

HIV Advocacy Network

Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV Employment Rights Project

Legal advice and counseling for people with HIV about their rights in the workplace. Call 593-0035 in the Bay Area and (888) 664-0628 toll-free in California.

HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction Program
Behavior change support group for gay & bi men, focus on speed injection & unsafe sex behaviors. Free. Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic, 1696 Haight. Call Bill or Bonnie, 565-1927.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf
Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199, 1853 Market St.

HIVCare

Offers the latest clinical trials from community-based trial network, access to experimental treatments. Free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Drop-In Groups

Co-ed for people with HIV, Wed., 8pm. Women with HIV, Tues., 10am. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1543.

HIV Group

Weekly group for men with HIV/AIDS. Sixteen Wed. afternoons from 1-2:30pm. Free to SF residents. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1534.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group

In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, (408) 293-2747.

HIV Negative Support Group

For gay and bisexual men offered by AIDS Health Project, free drop-in, time-limited and ongoing support groups. Info: 476-3902.

HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group
Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

HIV Positive Drop-In Group

Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group

18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Immune Enhancement Project
Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project

Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

Last Drag Smoking Cessation

Free quit smoking class for LGBT & HIV-positive smokers. Quit smoking in a confidential and supportive group setting. Classes led by a highly skilled and experienced clinic leader certified by the American Lung Association. Voice mail: (415) 565-7672, ext. 351 or www.lastdrag.org.

Lesbian Social Group
For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. (510) 790-2887.

Lesbian Support Groups

On mental health issues: peer counseling, support and referrals for SF residents. Call Connie, 552-0788.

Lesbians with Cancer

12 week psycho-social support group at the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market. Classes are offered on a sliding scale basis. Call 565-7672 x370 to register.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center
Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School

Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-6pm, M-F, 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

Maitri Residential Care

For people disabled by HIV requiring 24-hour medical care. For info or to volunteer, call 558-3000.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics

STD testing, treatment: HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

Martin De Porres House of Hospitality
Needs volunteers to work in soup kitchen, breakfast and lunch. 225 Potrero. 552-0240.

Medical Cannabis Delivery System
Serves homebound and ambulatory patients in SF and the East Bay. Fax, 255-7489. 2261 Market, #478, SF 94114. 436-9648.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Molested Boys

"Wounded Men, Recovery from Sexual Abuse" free audiotape. Call 552-4270.

Mothers Organizing Mothers

Working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

NWM

A rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific islander men and their partners. Wed. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-0946.

National Association of People With AIDS Fax

Fax-on-demand system which provides free and up-to-date information on HIV funding, grants, insurance, benefits, legal issues and more. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NAPWA Fax: (202) 789-2222.

New Leaf Transgender Substance Abuse Group
Mondays 4-5:30pm. Contact Fred Barrios, 626-7000 x146.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

Pacific Center

Counseling services, social groups for queer youth & adults, sliding scale. 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. (510) 548-8283.

The Positive Center

Free weekly workshops in acupuncture, nutrition, more for Marin Co. residents w/HIV. 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo. 456-8065.

Positive Gay Humanists
Internat'l organization to end discrimination & violence, meets Tues. at 7:30pm. Info: 285-0606.

Positive Resource Center
Provides work referrals and benefits counseling to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening, attend an employment opportunity orientation, or set up an appointment for benefits counseling call 777-0333.

Project Open Hand
Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Projecto ContraSIDA Por Vida
Counseling and workshops for les, gay and other life issues for gay, les, bi and trans Latinos/as. 864-7278.

Psychic Horizons
Free introductory meditation class Tuesdays, 7:30 pm. 2240 Geary Blvd. 346-7906.

PWA Long-Term Survivors
Support group for men: small, friendly, pro-active. Call Carol, 584-1708.

Q Action

Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Question HIV

Support group, share stories, every Mon., 7pm. Call for location and info. 252-1381.

Radical Women

Business mtg. 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Rafiki Services Project

Enhancing quality of life for African American people living with AIDS in SF. 346-5860.

re plen ish

Offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 410592, SF 94141.

Richard M. Cohen Residence
SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call 282-6209).

Sadhana Brothers

Gay/bi meets Hindu/buddhist fellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 314657

In The Superior Court Of The State Of California In And For The County Of San Francisco. In the matter of the Application of Allyson Meredith Kirk. For Change of Name. The application of Allyson Meredith Kirk, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Allyson Meredith Kirk, has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Ally Wray-Kirk. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 26th day of October 2000, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUGUST 31, SEPT 7, 14, 21 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 242728

The following person(s) are doing business as Clarity Skincare. 2001 Van Ness Avenue #407, San Francisco, CA. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jill C. Ferrell. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 8/11/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 08/11/2000.
AUGUST 17, 24, 31, SEPT. 7, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 242656

The following person(s) are doing business as Ontherail. 1011 23rd Street #10, San Francisco, CA. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Maria Cleaveland. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 7/27/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 08/08/2000.
AUGUST 17, 24, 31, SEPT. 7, 2000

San Mateo County AIDS Program

Provides prevention, health care, services and advocacy. Volunteer resources coordinator: (650) 573-2488. Information: (650) 573-2588.

Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors. Free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 777-3233.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous

One-hour drop-in 12-step meetings for sexually compulsive men and women every Monday, 7:15pm; Tuesday, 6pm; Friday, 6:30pm at The Meeting Place, 1874 Market. For info, www.sca-recovery.org or (800) 977-HEAL.

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic
City Clinic provides free or low cost confidential, comprehensive STD diagnostic and treatment services for anyone 12 years of age or older. The clinic is located at 356 7th Street, between Folsom and Harrison streets and is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8am-4pm, Tuesday from 1-6pm, and Thursday from 1-4pm.

Shanti
Provides practical assistance to people living with AIDS. Volunteer training provided. For info on services, call 674-4700; to volunteer, call 674-4722. New location is in the Project Open Hand building, 730 Polk Street, at Ellis.

STD Check-ups

Free testing site given by City Clinic, 2nd Thurs. of each month, 8:30-10:30pm. Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison. 863-4323.

Stonewall Project

A harm reduction program for GBT men who have questions about or issues with speed. Individual or group counseling offered with no requirement that you be clean and sober (or even want to be). Call for daily drop-in times. 3180 18th Street @ Folsom, Suite 202, SF 94110. (4

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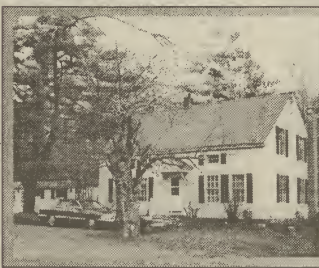
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STATEMENT FILE NO. 242552

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signed Robert E. Roberts. The registrant(s)
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San Francisco, CA on 8/03/2000.
AUG 10, 17, 24, 31, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 242372

The following person(s) are doing business
as GardenSprout, 55 Sharon Street, San
Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is
conducted by an individual signed Louis
Biedak. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
7/01/00. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 7/26/2000.
AUG 10, 17, 24, 31, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 314049

In The Superior Court Of The State Of
California In And For The County Of San
Francisco. In the matter of the Application
of Brett Mathew Wheeler. For Change of
Name. The application of Brett Mathew
Wheeler, having been filed in Court, and it
appearing from said application that Brett
Mathew Wheeler, has filed an application
proposing that his name be changed to Sir
Ezekiel Brett Tyrus. Now therefore, it is
hereby ordered and directed, that all
persons interested in said matter do appear
before this Court in Department 218 on the
2nd day of October 2000, at 9:00 o'clock
AM, of said day to show cause why the
application for change of name should not
be granted.
AUGUST 10, 17, 24, 31, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 242677

The following person(s) are doing business
as Mayhem Entertainment/Records,
Ebony, Ballerix Publishing, 750 La Playa
#718, San Francisco, CA, 94121. This
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signed Eric Robles. The registrant(s)
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above listed fictitious business name or
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of San Francisco, CA on 08/09/2000.
AUGUST 17, 24, 31, SEPT. 7, 2000

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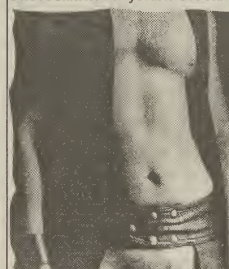
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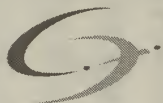
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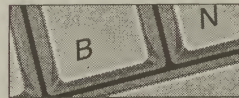
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'Book Report' checks in with the boys
Our lesbian columnist spends quality time
with books written by the opposite sex.

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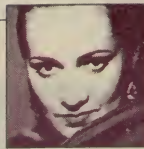
'Juvenilia' to 'Elders'
Bay Area arts spaces roll
out red carpet this fall.

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Dead art form walking?
San Francisco Opera fall
season, sampled on disc.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 35 • 31 August 2000

Season preview of the arts

Post-everything cinema

by Gary Morris



Queer
and
queerish
films,
fall 2000

Urbania, a gritty odyssey
through NYC, is a highlight
of the fall movie calendar

Queer and queerish films have come to be increasingly *de rigueur* in the modern cinema landscape, with a subsequent broadening of the types of queers portrayed. The day of the vampire lesbian and the queer psycho killer isn't exactly dead, but such beloved stereotypes are more likely to be celebrated or camped-up than vilified, as in the past. In this post-everything world, gay werewolves, respectable dykes, macho dancers, teenage girl boxers, and even cocksucking auteurs happily coexist. The boundaries are sufficiently blurred that some of these characters are not precisely queer but queer-coded, welcomed as their own by both gay and straight audiences.

The fall movie scene looks to be richly queer, with the above-mentioned group sharing cinematic space with such icons of homo life as the Marquis de Sade, William Burroughs, San Francisco lap dancers, and that timeless troupe, cutthroat-competitive poodle queens. (Playdates may change; check your local listings.)

Not surprisingly, since men rule the roost, there appear to be more male-oriented features than female in this season's gay-la offerings. The first, opening Sept. 8, is Francois Ozon's *Water Drops on Burning Rocks*, an adaptation of a Fassbinder play that he either forgot or purposely shelved, apparently because it involved an affair he had as a young man with an older queen. Discovered after his death, the play makes a dandy claustrophobic chamber piece, with a winsome trick slowly, viciously disabused of every ideal by a predatory old (50, that is) queen. You don't have to be a Fassbinder freak to appreciate this film's black vision of a world of homo hunters and hunted.

Jon Shear's *Urbania*, opening September 15, is a queer odyssey through Manhattan with tormented Charlie (Dan Futterman) avenging a friend's fagbashing. Flashbacks and forwards and a gritty view of New York City as a Boschian nightmare give this dire, violent story poetic resonance. Opening the same day at the Castro is the real-life nightmare of *Paragraph 175*. This doc by locals Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman somehow managed to unearth queers who survived the Nazi death camps, along the way limning the gruesome history of homos living under that particular reign of terror.

Hello, Hellacious

Fervent spiritual seekers may want to pop into the Castro the next week to see William Friedkin's seminal glop 'n' gorefest *The Exorcist* (1973). The draw here is an additional 15 minutes of footage, though it's not clear if this consists of anything more than different angles of projectile vomiting by that unpredictable scamp and hellspawn Linda Blair. The film is, of course, must viewing for queers in its skewering of mainstream straight religion.

Perhaps a matinee of that barf-o-rama could be followed by an evening with Christopher Guest's *Best in Show*. Guest's *Waiting for Guffman* impressed many viewers with its slashing satire of a dinner theater company, and this time Guest sweetly assaults another treasure of lowbrow American culture, the dog show. Among the crazed en-

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All grown up

by Richard Dodds

Once a child star,
Danny Pintauro stars
in *The Velocity of Gary*

A lot of the folks out there in TV land apparently knew that Danny Pintauro was gay long before he did.

Pintauro, who played Judith Light's rambunctious son on the long-running sitcom *Who's the Boss?*, didn't figure it out for himself until he got to Stanford University. Even he now looks at reruns with a knowing eye.

"I look back on the show and think, 'My God, what a faggot,' and people say that to me all the time," the 24-year-old actor said. "There are a lot of older gay men who say, 'My gaydar went off as soon as I saw you.' I used to take big offense to the idea that people thought I was gay on the show, because I was totally unconscious of it."

But once he got to Stanford, the pieces began to fit, and he came out on campus without reservation. Before long, the *National Enquirer* came a-calling. "I was totally expecting to be outed in some magazine sooner or later," he said. "The more surprising part was that they still cared."

Since graduating in 1998, Pintauro has focused on edgy theater, playing Oscar Wilde's lover in *Gross Indecencies* in North Carolina, a hormonally raging teenage son of a pornographer in Paula Vogel's *Hot 'n' Throbbing* in Washington, DC, and a gay hustler in *The Velocity of Gary* (Not His Real Name) in New York.

Pintauro is repeating his performance in *The Velocity of Gary* at New Conservatory Theatre Center, where a four-week run opens Sept. 6. James Still's one-man play centers on a young naive gay hustler trying to make it on the mean streets of Manhattan. As his seedy adventures are replayed, his hopes for a different kind of life are also conveyed. The production comes with a warning of "male nudity and

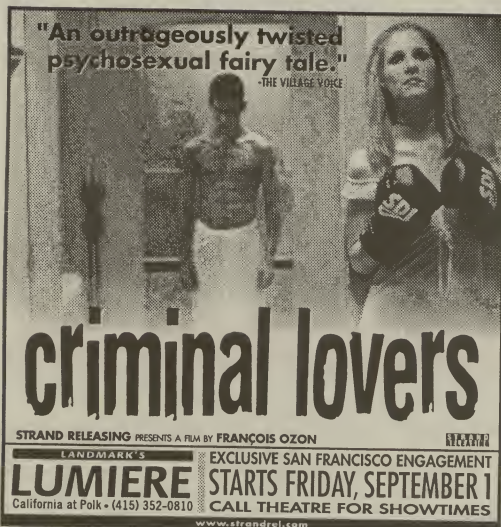
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Ron Fessler

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

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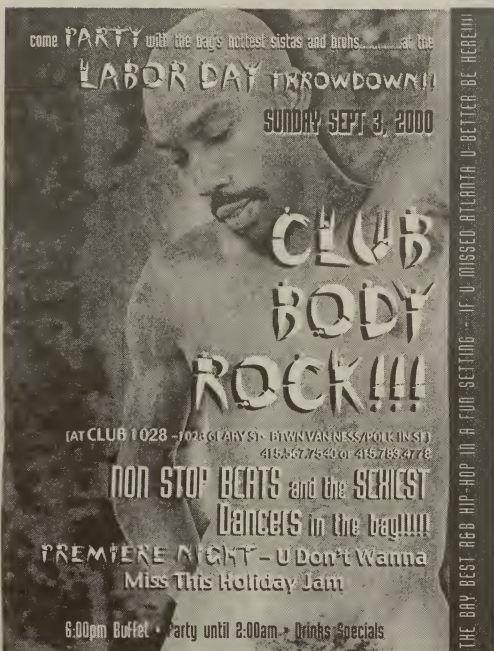
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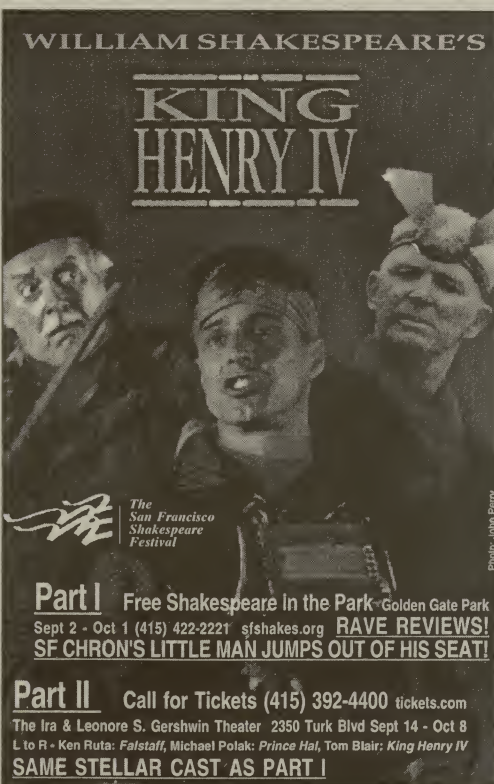
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SAME STELLAR CAST AS PART I

by Roberto Friedman and Desert Island Ditz

Just call us *Survivor* detritus. We've come a long way, baby, when a blubbery, scheming, conniving, bitchy fag can come out the big winner in a cutthroat competition — and be voted that way by his peers, who had to live with him! Okay, he only won by one vote, and it was a complete fluke, but still!

On a gay historical note, Out There was amused that nipple-pierced neurologist hottie Sean was so impressed with queer Rich's potential organization "Fat Naked Fags." In the early '80s, artist Keith Haring got his start by spraypainting the streets of NYC in neon orange letters, "FAFH" — "Fags Against Facial Hair!" We don't think Rich could've been part of that organization!

Hey, if veteran rocker Joan Jett can make her Broadway debut in a revival of *The Rocky Horror Show*, it is a brave new world. *Rocky Horror* will open at the Circle in the Square on Nov. 13; Variety reports that talk show veteran Dick Cavett has been cast as the narrator in Richard O'Brien's musical take on the *Frankenstein* legend. All together now: *Bor-ing!*

In a charming instance of reverse drag, producer Jordan Roth has also cast lesbian comic Lea Delaria in *Rocky* to play Eddie/Dr. Scott, meaty roles originated by rock 'n' roll personality Meatloaf in the musical's London premiere and the 1975 NY production.

Drag is apparently the voice that won't pipe down: A proposed segment of the closing Olympic Games ceremonies in Sydney, based on the movie *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* and featuring female impersonators, is already stirring up some international controversy. The "tribute to drag," part of a celebration of Australian culture, was denounced last week by a constipated member of the Australian Council of Churches, who said, "Some deeply religious countries could be extremely upset by this depiction of homosexuality and gender-crossing." A

spokescreature for the notoriously repressive Catholic Church also criticized the plans. Olympic organizers, true to form, declined comment.



Heklina and Miss Chocolate

High heels on the high seas

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water: Transnashack goddesses Heklina and Miss Chocolate will host S.S. *Transnashack*, the 'Shack's first-ever boat cruise, on Saturday, Sept. 23 (yes, Folsom Fair Eve), from 10 p.m.-1 a.m., departing from Pier 41 at Fisherman's Wharf.

The drag show on the Bay features local legends like Electro the Pop and Lock King.

Kennedy, Lady Sergio, and Peggy L'eggs. There'll be dancing to the tunes of resident 'Shack DJ Pinky Ring.

Boarding begins at 9 p.m., and bets are already being taken as to which tranny will be the first to get too drunk and fall fanny first into the drink. Out There says better stock up on those life preservers, ladies! Tickets (\$30 advance, \$40) at NaNa, 2276 Market St., and Undercover, 545 Castro St.

Feather Boas

Celebrity photographer Gary Lee Boas returns to Yerba Buena Center for the Arts next Thursday, September 7 at 6 p.m. (Grand Lobby) to do a book signing for *Starstruck*, the collection of his Instamatic snapshots of the stars.

Out There hears tell of an earlier incident in his book tour. It



Detail of snapshot of Jackie O., photographed by Gary Lee Boas

seems while Boas was in Nebraska earlier this month, he went to a gay bar and met cute with some cornfed farmboy who, wearing nothing but a gold G-string, teabagged him repeatedly at the bar.

Boas apparently fell in love and began chatting the tyke up. The boy played hard to get at first, but sure as the rising sun, our intrepid lensman had him posed in front of the camera the next day.

Besides celebrity stalker, Boas' other profession — and this didn't come up during his *Mornings on 2* interview — is beefcake photographer for various international spooze contests. Some guys sure lead a charmed life.

B'watch to B'way

We just about fell out of our chair when we heard that *Baywatch* star David Hasselhoff will soon open on Broadway as the new star of *Jekyll & Hyde*. Hasselhoff has, of course, one of the most recognizable faces — and bosoms — in TV land, as the blonde, buffed lifeguard who saves your sorry ass from drowning.

He also has one of the most unusual trajectories in modern celebrityhood: from daytime TV, lured by NBC sugar daddy Brandon Tartikoff to prime time in *Knight Rider*; to softcore porn in *Babewatch*; to superstardom in Germany, where they apparently fell for the big guy in a big way, and where his nine (!) albums went straight to the tops of the charts.

Hasselhoff opens on Hal-lowe'en, and that's genuinely scary.

Circle gets the square

We switched on *ET* the other night to find the most famous gay man in America — yes, *Survivor* winner Richard Hatch again — hoping that he might find "a meaningful relationship." Out There thinks the eligible bachelor might not have to look any farther than his own network, CBS. We think Hatch's perfect match might be *Hollywood Square* Bruce Vilanch. That pair would give new meaning to the term "mirth and girth" — and between both of their incomes, they could probably buy a small island for their honeymoon romp in the buff.

Hatch and anyone else can meet Vilanch at A Different Light bookstore on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 7:30 p.m., signing copies of his new product, *Bruce* (Tarcher/Putnam).

Off the island: This week, Out There says, "Bye-bye!" to half of our production and editorial staffs, as Everybody who's Everybody heads to the playa. But really, this mega-event called *Burning Man* is getting so mainstream, isn't it time for someone to form a purist sect — say, *Burning Splinters*? Seems like everyone we know will be broiling in the dedicated desert this weekend, but we're sure we don't have to tell them to hydrate. ▼

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By Jeff B. ...

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NY Times

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THEATRE

Season full of stage offerings

Surveying Bay Area theatre 2000-01

by Richard Dodds

Talk about a diversity of diversions. The upcoming theater seasons offers *Naked Boys Singing* and *Vagina Monologues*, the sounds of ABBA and the songs of *Assassins*, musicals set at Chez Panisse and at the Copacabana, and Bible stories that imagine Adam and Steve in Eden and a gay Jesus wannabe in a small Texas town.

It isn't hard to come up with a hefty list of the new, the novel, the intriguing, and the provocative among the theatergoing possibilities that face Bay Area audiences in the 2000-2001 season. Here are some of the highlights of the coming season.

Fresh from New York

Naked Boys Singing (Aug. 31-Oct. 22) is still going strong in New York, and the local producers hope to move the show after the initial run at Theatre Rhino. A cast of seven sings about the various body issues that affect gay men, and display their own bodies in the process.

Berkeley Rep scooped up the 1999 Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Dinner with Friends* (Nov. 10-Jan. 5), Donald Margulies' funny and thought-provoking look at the delicacy of the marital bond.

New Conservatory Theatre Center will offer the West Coast debut of *Snakebit* (Jan. 24-March 24), actor David Marshall Grant's acclaimed playwriting debut that explores a relationship between a married couple and a gay friend who may have passed on AIDS to one of the spouses.

Brava! for Women in the Arts will present the local premiere of *Stop Kiss* (Jan. 31-March 3), Diana Son's tender examination of tentative lesbian love and the act of violence that changes everything.

Ebon Moss-Bachrach in *Side Man*

San Jose Rep opens its season with a one-two punch of Broadway hits from the past season. Playwright Warren Leight won a Tony Award for *Side Man* (Sept. 9-Oct. 8), a look at journeymen jazz musicians through the eyes of the son of one of the tunnel-vision musicians. David Hare's *Amy's View* (Oct. 28-Nov. 26) is a play about a famous actress (memorably played by Judi Dench in New York) who has daughter problems.

Aurora Theatre gets bragging rights for the first Bay Area production of Conor McPherson's *The Weir* (Nov. 10-Dec. 17), a collection of ghost stories told in a pub in rural Ireland.

Flying solo

Former child actor Danny (Who's the Boss?) Pintauro plays a hustler recalling his brief but lurid career in *The Velocity of Gary* (Not His Real Name) (Sept. 6-30), a one-man play by James Still at the New Conservatory Theatre Center.

The ever-luscious Varla Jean Merman returns to San Francisco

Varla Jean Merman: *Enough!*

with *Enough About Me: An Unauthorized Autobiography* (Sept. 30-Oct. 28), a new one-person musical show about self-absorption. A former denizen of the defunct Josie's Cabaret, Merman will set up shop at New Conservatory.

Eve Ensler, the creator and an original performer of *The Vagina Monologues* (Oct. 31-Dec. 1), takes to the Alcazar Theatre stage to go public on female privates.

The politically incorrect Sandra Tsing Loh looks at her mixed-up family life in *Aliens in America* (Feb. 3-March 4), a one-woman play at San Jose Rep by the daughter of a Chinese physicist father and stylish German mother.

Giles Havergal, who adapted and directed *Travels With My Aunt* at ACT, will be the only performer

in a stage adaptation at the Magic Theatre of Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice* (March 30-April 22), a tale of obsessive, unrequited homosexual love.

Bible camp

New Conservatory Theatre Center will open its Pride subscription series with a seriously irreverent take on the New Testament and end it with a hilariously irreverent take on the Old Testament.

The opening show is *Corpus Christi* (Oct. 11-Jan. 6), Terrence McNally's retelling of the Christ story set among gay believers in contemporary America. The initial New York run was greeted with a howl from religious conservatives that died down after the play opened.

No such controversy marked the New York run of Paul Rudnick's *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, an out-there comedy by the author of *Jeffrey* that traces the history of humankind through the relationships between Adam and Steve and Jane and Mabel.

New plays

It's a double header for gay San Francisco playwright Prince Gomolivas, who will have new plays produced at New Conservatory and the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. *Debunking Love* (Nov. 8-Jan. 6 at NCTC) looks at an Asian-American novelist dealing with writer's block, rice queens, and romantic entanglements. *Bee*

(March 8-April 1 at LHT) is a parable about the relationship between an Asian-American man and an African-American woman.

Theatre Rhino will offer *For Colored Boys...* (May 3-June 2), a gay homage to Ntozake Shange's choreopoem *For Colored Girls...*, with former Afro Pomo Homo Marvin K. White telling the stories of gay African-American men.

The Chicano/Latino performance trio Culture Clash takes a bittersweet look at the Mission District — how it was and how it is — in *Mission Magic Mystical Tour* (Nov. 28-Jan. 21) at Brava!

New musicals

John Fisher, who gave us *Medea: The Musical* and *Barebacking: A Sex Panic! Comedy*, now applies his swashbuckling camp to ancient Egypt. After a preview run at UC Berkeley, *Cleopatra: The Musical* (Nov. 2-Dec. 2) will have its premiere at Theatre Rhino.

The Plaza Hotel had Heloise, and Chez Panisse restaurant has Fanny. A new musical based on restaurateur Alice Waters' *Fanny at Chez Panisse* (Sept. 13-Oct. 29) tells of a young girl growing up in the world of a famous restaurant. Joe Landon's musical will have its world-premiere run at the Julia Morgan Theatre.

ACT's *Hans Christian Andersen* (Aug. 31-Oct. 8) isn't entirely a new musical. But what choreographer Martha Clarke and librettist Sebastian Barry have done to the

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Backstage

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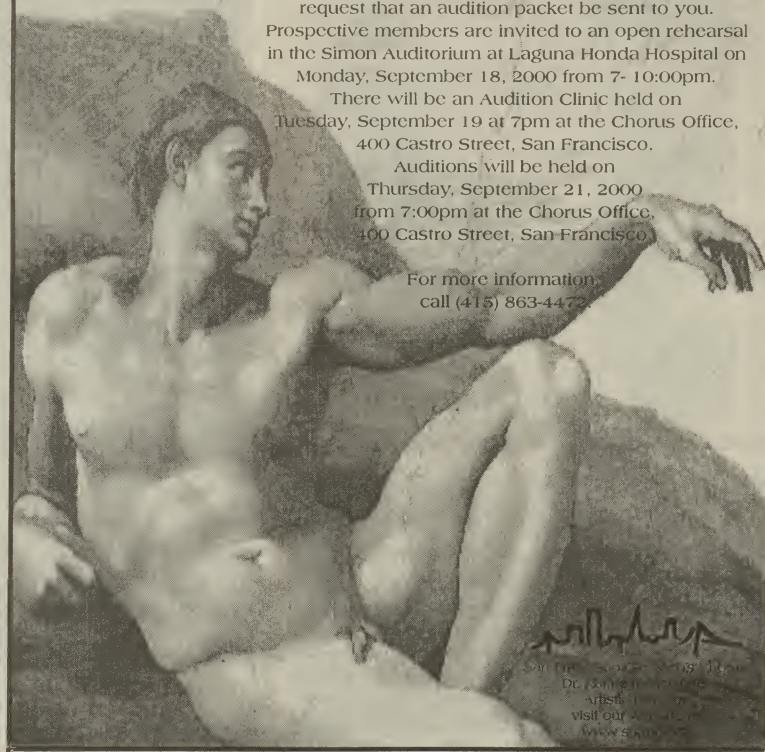
The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus announces auditions
in all parts for Holiday 2000.

If you are interested in auditioning, call the chorus office at (415) 863-4472, leave your name, address, and phone number and request that an audition packet be sent to you. Prospective members are invited to an open rehearsal in the Simon Auditorium at Laguna Honda Hospital on Monday, September 18, 2000 from 7-10:00pm.

There will be an Audition Clinic held on Tuesday, September 19 at 7pm at the Chorus Office, 400 Castro Street, San Francisco.

Auditions will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2000 from 7:00pm at the Chorus Office, 400 Castro Street, San Francisco.

For more information, call (415) 863-4472.



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The rise of the fall

by Victoria A. Brownworth

As if the breakup of Anne and Ellen and the end of *Survivor* weren't traumatizing enough, now we have to prepare for the onslaught of the new TV season.

No new show will be anticipated as much as *Survivor II*, set in the unforgiving Australian outback. These survivors will be lucky to catch rats to eat, and water will be harder to find than Richard

fabulous. (Unlike Sue, who was smitten for a time, we never liked Kelly, so we loved Sue's hell-hath-no-fury rant about the rats and snakes, and were totally thrilled that Rich slithered into first place by a single vote.)

After *Survivor*, the two most highly promoted reality shows are the presidential campaign (since Bush has yet to agree to debates, this may be canceled faster than David Spade's *Sammy*) and the summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia (where it's actually winter, but hey, it's still hot as Hades). Let Aaron Spelling produce both and we might tune in.

Speaking of Spelling (no, that wasn't a veiled reference to Dan Quayle), *Titans*, NBC's new Spelling extravaganza, sizzles. Yasmine Bleeth (late of *Baywatch*), former *Dallas* diva Victoria Principal (does she have a portrait in the closet or what? She hasn't aged in a decade. Maybe we should be buying her expensive skin-care products), and former *General Hospital* stud Ingo Rademacher star. *Titans* is *Melrose Place* meets *Dynasty*. Expect lots of skimpy bikinis, bulging Speedos, sex and drama, drama, drama.

One of the most highly touted new series is ABC's *Gideon's Crossing*, set to play opposite NBC's Emmy-nominated (and very queer-friendly) *The West Wing*. GC stars powerhouse actor Andre

Braugher, who scared through the Emmy-winning *Homicide: Life on the Streets*. In GC, Braugher plays an edgy doc in charge of a plethora of pretty young med students. Seems more *Chicago Hope* than *ER*, but with Braugher at the helm, it's worth a look. ABC becomes the first of the big four networks to cast an African-American lead in a drama series. Welcome to the 21st century.

Fat cat on Fox

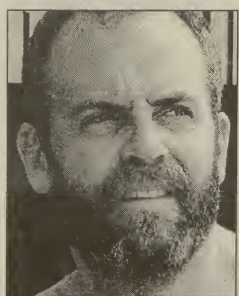
The season's token queer show is Fox's chubby-chaser alert, *Normal, Ohio*, starring hefty funny man John Goodman as a former het dad who comes out. (We let

this fat cat out of the bag months ago, before Fox execs had even given the show a name. We can only hope more imagination went into the show than into the title.) Looks dreadful, but Goodman can turn sow's ears into silk purses — witness his *SNL* burlesque of Linda Tripp.

The gender-bending summer replacement show on the WB, *Young Americans*, returns for fall, but this soaper is rated NC17 — if you're older or not a pedophile, you'll be bored to tears.

Much of the new season fits under the rubric how-the-mighty-have-fallen. Oscar-winner Geena Davis has an eponymous sitcom on ABC about the trials of parenthood. Talk about fresh ideas! Then Shakespearean actor

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Winning *Survivor* Richard Hatch

with his ass covered. *Survivor II* will be the hottest (literally) and probably most enjoyable new show of the season. As embarrassingly addictive as crack, but way less expensive.

We must digress from the tedious fall line-up for a moment: Could we be more excited that the biggest ratings grabber in TV history was snatched by the self-proclaimed fat naked fag? Talk about

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ARTS

Lively arts this autumn

From folk art to major collections on view

by Will Shank

Get out your calendars, culture vultures! The summer doldrums are over, and Bay Area arts institutions are rolling out the red carpet with their fall programs.

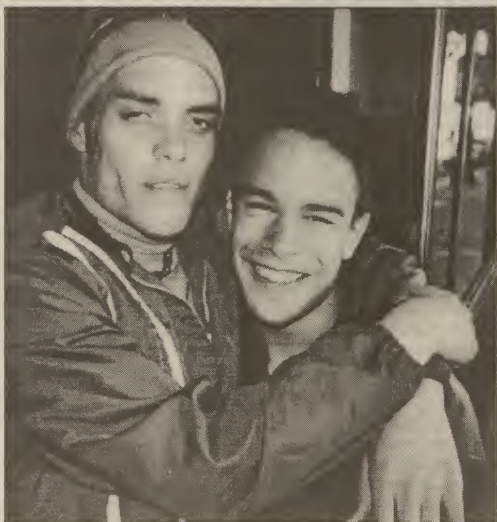
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts continues to concoct some of the most innovative programming in the Bay Area. *Juvenilia*, which opens on November 4, explores ideas about young adults and includes the work of Tom Friedman. His use of mass-distributed objects like ballpoint pens and chewing gum both pokes fun at and elegizes the heyday of Pop Art. Later this season, in February, *Try This On* invites artists whose medium is themselves, their costumes, and their make-up to investigate contemporary social behavior. Among the artists who re-create themselves for art are Korean-born Nikki Lee (whose Zelig-like act consists of photographing herself in assumed identities on location, as Ohio trailer trash, Manhattan Yuppie, or East Village Japanese) and the team of Pierre et Gilles, whose painted photographs hover "between kitsch and rarefied expressions of the sublime."

Evenings in Yerba Buena's theater look as interesting as days in the galleries. Among the performances that look most promising are a recital by cellist Joan Jenrenaud, followed by a conversation with the musician, on October 5. Jenrenaud is an artist-in-residence at Yerba Buena, and her performance will comprise an innovative marriage of cello and alternative media. The following week, from Nov. 12-15, visionary choreographer Ralph Lemon will dance the second part of his *Geography Trilogy*, a metaphorical visit to Asia (the other two parts are Asia and North America), and in November the irreverent Compagnie Cahin-Caha Cirque Batard will put on an energetic, six-member circus like "none you've ever experienced," the YBCA press office promises. Local performance artist Keith Hennessey is part of the French-American troupe.

At the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, a retrospective of Edward Hicks paintings opens on September 23. Seventy-five works of the enigmatic Quaker creator of *The Peaceable Kingdom* should draw great crowds of admirers of folk art and early Americana. Continuing a tradition of excellence in presenting works on paper at the Legion of Honor, an exhibition of old master prints from the Berolzheimer Collection is the latest offering of the Achenbach Foundation, which acquired the collection in 1998. The exhibition, which opens on September 9, includes works by Rembrandt, Dürer, Mantegna, Guido Reni and others. You'll need to act quickly to catch *Elder Arts* at the de Young; it runs only from September 27 to October 8. The brief installation includes artwork by 90 nursing home residents, as well as paintings by prominent Bay Area artist Raymond Saunders.

Underage eyes

Across town, another surprising source of creativity will be on view at the Larkin Street Youth Center. Beginning on September 13, *Momentum 2000* presents the



From *Momentum 2000*, Polaroid art by Larkin Street Youth

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-Edward Guthmann, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

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San Francisco Opera fall season on disc

by Stephanie von Buchau

I'm tired of repeating this, but the true operatic experience is not about how people look or even how they sound. It is not about modern music theater. It is not about original productions. It is not even about whether Mozart is a better composer than Massenet. The operatic experience is what happens when a particular piece of music is sung in a particular way by a particular voice and you, the listener, "get it."

In an ideal world, everybody would make these decisions for themselves, and you wouldn't need me to arbitrate. But, face it, this is not an ideal world, and besides, I like to arbitrate. Feel free to disagree. As the San Francisco Opera opens its 78th season next Friday night with a gala in honor of general director Lotfi Mansouri, here are a few idiosyncratic suggestions for home listening of this fall's interesting repertory.

Luisa Miller (Verdi) — This 1849 transitional piece is just close enough to the "Big Three" — *Rigoletto* (1851), *Il Trovatore* and *La Traviata* (1853) — to be touched by Verdi's mature genius, but retro enough to require bel canto technique. That said, I prefer James Levine's muscular Metropolitan Opera set (Sony Classical) to Fausto Cleva's more genteel presentation with Anna Moffo and Carlo Bergonzi (RCA Gold Seal). Levine can be brutal in Ital-

ian opera — stay away from his toxic *Elisir d'Amore* — but with this heavyweight cast, the results are pure guilty pleasure.

I don't think Aprile Millo (Luisa) is what Verdi had in mind, but she sings with such conviction that I suspect the composer would have admired the end result. This 1991 recording, made at the Manhattan Center in NYC, also caught Vladimir Chernov (Miller) in his prime, while Plácido Domingo, never the most elegant of tenors, sings his big aria, "Quando le sere al placido," beautifully. Sept. 9, 13, 17, 19, 22, 28, Oct. 1.

The Tsar's Bride (Rimsky-Korsakov) — The only worry I have about the incoming SFO director, Pamela Rosenberg (you can discount most of that virulent crap on the Internet), is that she will not love Russian opera as much as Mansouri has. With the help of Valery Gergiev, now alas tethered to the unforgiving Metropolitan Opera, Mansouri turned the War Memorial into the Kirov West. I heard *Tsar's Bride* in a concert performance in New York in 1995; as the discarded mistress, Olga Borodina burned down the barn. There is only one worthy recording, fortunately from Gergiev and the Kirov (Philips), starring SFO's leading couple, Borodina and Dmitri Hvorostovsky (hubba hubba) as the warring ex-lovers. Warbling Rimsky's Italo-Russian coloratura as Marfa, the miserable bride, is Marina Shaguch on disc. (In New



Mezzo-soprano Olga Borodina

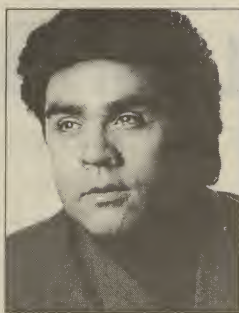
York, I heard the splendid Sicilian soprano, Nuccia Focile. And why hasn't she been to SF?) Sept. 11, 14, 16, 20, 24, 26, 29.

The Ballad of Baby Doe (Moore) — Here's another opera making its SFO premiere (there are four in the first three months of the season). *Baby Doe* has its longueurs — watch out for the endless "Calf of Gold" political speech by William Jennings Bryan. The recording that sells the work was made in 1959, right after the NY City Opera premiere, and only released last year on CD due to maximum cupidity on everybody's part. Never mind; it may be the best recording of an American opera ever made, with the late Walter Cassel as Horace Tabor and Beverly Sills at her youthful, innocent best as Baby Doe. In the final scene, as Baby Doe hallucinates

while freezing to death outside the Matchless Mine, that pure silvery soprano floats away into heavenly bliss (Deutsche Grammophon). Sept. 23, 27, Oct. 3, 6, 8, 11, 14.

Dead Man Walking (Heggie) — I learned a long time ago, painfully, never to tout an opera I hadn't actually heard, so I have no opinion on how Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally will succeed with the explosive, controversial subject matter about the death penalty. All we know is that the opera is not a reprise of Tim Robbins' movie. Your best bet for getting a handle on the music is Heggie's solo album, *Faces of Love* (RCA Victor), in which a starry series of divas — Frederica von Stade, Jennifer Larmore, Sylvia McNair, Renée Fleming and Carol Vaness — sings his sweet, easy-on-the-ears songs. They are easy on the voice, too, which is why the ladies love them, yet I find that the album as a whole tends toward bland monotony, making one wonder how the young composer is going to create the vivid characterizations required for a full evening of opera. Oct. 7, 13, 17, 19, 22, 25, 28.

L'Elisir d'Amore (Donizetti) — I shouldn't complain that we are having *Elisir* so soon again, especially since last season we heard that gorgeous *La Favorite*, but SFO's *Elisir* is an ancient production, the stage director is Graziella Sciutti, who did not fare well with *Don Giovanni* this summer, and the opening cast tenor is Tito Beltrán — sexy, yes, but a shouter in a role that requires Kraus-like finesse. (The January performances suggest more idiomatic tenor



Tito Beltrán

styling when Roberto Saccà, whom you may remember as a dulcet Al-maviva at the Orpheum Theatre, sings "Una furtive lagrima.")

Your taste in *Elisir* recordings depends on what you want out of the score. Most critics recommend the Battle/Pavarotti/Levine set (Deutsche Grammophon) or the Sutherland/Pavarotti/Bonyngue discs (Decca) just because they have famous names attached to them, yet both are hard-edged and charmless. The "Love Couple" (Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna) are preferable, from Lyon Opera with conductor Evelino Pido, even though he sings an annoying variant of "Una furtive" (Decca).

If you love this score as I do for its eloquent demonstration of the power of song to rocket your emotions from humor to romance to pathos, try to find a magical performance starring the underrated Mariella Devia (pure Italian vixen) and the very young and un-self-conscious (pre-Angela) Alagna. In addition to its Italian charm, it is a critical edition, conducted by Marcello Viotti, that sports the original, higher and more difficult coloratura for the soprano (Erato). Oct. 21, 24, 31, Nov. 3, 5, 8 and January 7, 11, 13, 2001. ▼

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Danny Pintauro

◀ Arts cover

explicit language."

The TV-trained actor was drawn to the play by the challenges it provided. "As an actor, I'm all about challenges right now," Pintauro said, "and this has provided me with God knows how many of them."

The experience for audiences is "just riveting," he continued. "It's this guy who you don't feel you can relate to at first because he's hard-edged and lives on the street, but his stories are fascinating, and as the piece goes on, you're able to relate to him more and more. You realize that despite the kind of life he's lived, he's able to walk away with this amazing sense of hope."

Hard proof

When Pintauro first made the rounds of casting agents after

graduating college, they didn't exactly welcome him with open arms. "Casting agents in New York just aren't very confident in sitcom stars," he said, "so I had to prove to them that I could actually pull it off."

When he teamed with director Mark Cannistraro on *The Velocity of Gary*, they hoped that a private performance for friends and potential presenters would lead to an offer. "But it didn't work," he said, "and we just decided to do it ourselves."

They staged the piece at the Duplex, a Manhattan cabaret with tiny tables and a two-drink minimum. "It's definitely going to be taken a lot more seriously in a theater," Pintauro said, "and I'm really looking forward to that."

Actually, Pintauro had no plans to do *Gary* again. "I was happy how it went in New York, and was willing to leave it at that," Pintauro said. "But Mark, the director, next page ▶

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Matriarchs rule

'Blossoms of Fire' opens at the Roxie

by David Lamble

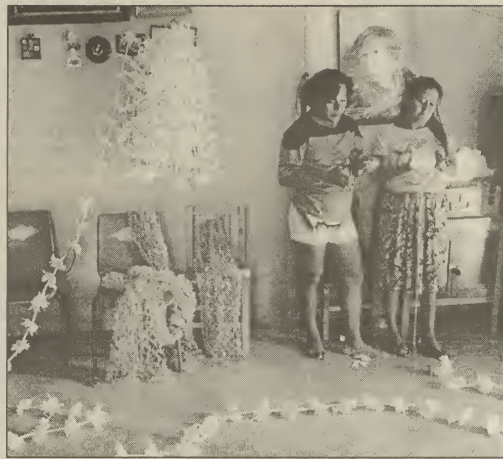
About 50 minutes into *Blossoms of Fire*, Maureen Gosling's exuberantly upbeat film about North America's most successful surviving matriarchy, a group of openly gay young people reveal what the truce in the gender wars means for effeminate gay men in the Southern Mexican city of Juchitan.

"Everyone else gets married. The one who stays with his mother is the homosexual. He's the one who lives with her 'til she dies. He'll never let her want for anything. He's always working hard so his mother can keep going. They depend on each other, they're very united....They'll say, 'If only God would grant me the blessing of having a homosexual in my home.'"

Earlier, a young man with shaved legs, plucked eyebrows and lipstick helps his mother fold and string paper flowers. A young lesbian drinks beer with her lover, declaring, "We've totally conquered this society." In America, the young man or woman would live in San Francisco, and Mom would get a check. In Juchitan, the gay kid is the check — a human nest egg that trumps the devalued currency of a distant, repressive and corrupt central authority.

In *Blossoms of Fire*, opening Friday at the Roxie, Gosling gives us a socialist realist travelogue in the style of a latter-day Orson Welles, with the philosophy of a feminist Hemingway and the palette of the great muralist Diego Rivera. The film is almost drunk with color, as if its glorious reds were a visual Prozac to ward away the blues.

In the film's prologue, Gosling recaps a scandal that briefly arose when a tabloid magazine depicted the women of Juchitan like the punchline in a mother-in-law joke. The town's women threatened to beat up a local shopkeep-



Maçario Robles and his mother Rosalba Sanchez in *Blossoms of Fire*

er if he sold the magazine — and soon Gosling found herself documenting the women's view of their rural Eden, not unlike the way filmmaker Spike Jonze became Al Gore's video Boswell.

In the myth of Juchitan, women and men serve equal and complementary functions in a preindustrial society where fishing and subsistence agriculture nourish body and soul. It's as if Gosling were zooming in on a tiny fragment of *The Aztec World*, Rivera's attempt to recapitulate all of Mexican history in a single mural, and arguing that all life could be like this — ignoring the darker, bloodier ironies elsewhere on the artist's canvas. To be fair, Gosling argues that the Zampatec culture of Southern Mexico survived by fighting — first the Aztecs, later the Spanish, and most recently the now defeated PRI government. She uses the hardy survival of an ancient pre-Western culture to make a very San Francisco argument for grass roots community,

neighborhood autonomy and equality of the sexes.

An older woman talks to the camera, describing how she follows a traditional recipe for plum wine, curing, soaking and crushing thousands of plums all by herself. *Blossoms of Fire* argues that work — especially the kind of drudgery that the modern world has sought to banish with machines — is often what keeps a person centered and sane. Ironically, the plum wine lady includes a little television in her recipe for the good life. At the end of her film, Gosling shows that the global economy is knocking on the door of paradise: the mother stringing flowers with her gay son is the local Avon Lady; kids no longer play safely in Juchitan's American-like traffic jams, and when they stay indoors, their eyes are fixed on video games. ▼

Blossoms of Fire screens at the Roxie Cinema Sept. 1-6.

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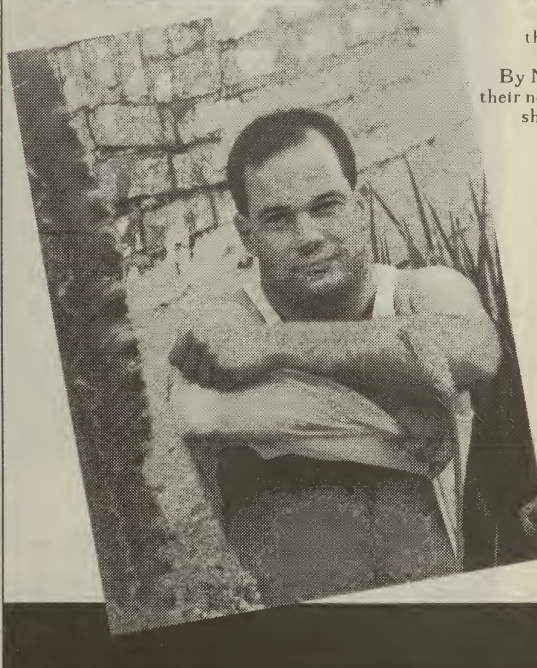
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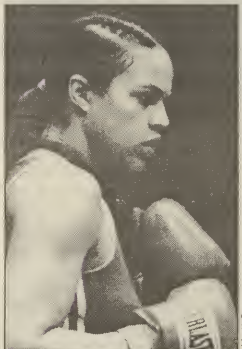
FILM

Post-everything

◀ Arts cover

trants: two spoiled Shih Tzus, "Miss Agnes" and "Tyronne," and a pampered poodle, "Rhapsody in White," owned by a New York queen and his hairdresser boyfriend, the latter played by the always welcome Michael McKean (Oct. 13).

More fun in this vein arrives with Paddy Breathnach's *Blow Dry*. This time the subject is a national hairdressing competition in a small English town. Alan Rickman plays an old-school hairdresser vs. his ex-wife, played by Natasha Richardson, who's drifted into dykedom. This comedy, directed by the guy who gave us *The Full Monty*, features the rarely-sighted male morgue beautician (October).

Michelle Rodriguez in *Girlfight*

Opening September 29 is Karyn Kusama's *Girlfight*. Not strictly queer, it's nonetheless of interest as a rare glimpse at the professional and romantic travails of a teenage girl boxer (played by Michelle Rodriguez). Advance buzz is hot for what sounds like a *Rocky* for baby dykes, and feather-weight or feather-brained, it sounds like something worth working up a sweat over.

Robert Lee King's *Psycho Beach Party*, opening mid- to late September, has made waves on the queer film festival circuit, and promises at least diversion with its campy send-up of '60s slasher films. Watch for Charles *Lesbian Vampires of Sodom* Busch as "Captain Monica Stark."

"Gay vampire" is practically a redundancy, but gay werewolves haven't fared as well. These beasts have usually been resolutely hetero. Making up for that is Will Gould's *The Wolves of Kromer*, opening October 20. This parable of homosexuality focuses on anti-social, "amoral" lycanthropes pursued by a murderous mob (Christians, no doubt) in an English village. The thought of male werewolf couples fucking each other's brains out at bonfire parties, then running off to fleece the straight villagers, sounds like sweet revenge indeed.

The cast of Greg Berlanti's *The Broken Hearts Club*Rachel Griffiths, Natasha Richardson, and Alan Rickman in *Blow Dry*

Also in October (opening the 6th) is Greg Berlanti's *The Broken Hearts Club*, whose coy tagline is, "The shortest distance between friends isn't always a straight line." This queer version of *Diner*—or *Boys in the Band*, or *Friends*, or any number of ensemble-based TV shows and movies—updates the *Boys in the Band* model by having its queens prattle about Ricky Martin, Janet Jackson, and John-Boy Walton instead of Judy and Bette. The studio is hoping for a crossover hit: a recent *Wall Street Journal* article quoted director Berlanti as saying, "I'd love for this to be the first film with all gay characters not to be in the 'gay' section at Blockbuster." Perhaps prayer will help the director realize this dream.

Pithier thrills can be had from Julia Query and Vicky Funari's *Live Nude Girls Unite!*, also opening on Oct. 6 at the Roxie. This bracing doc tracks a strike by lap dancers at San Francisco's Lusty Lady as they try to unionize. The women are passionate, intelligent, and articulate; maybe this will be the film that finally ends the notion that women who work in the sex industry are coked-out morons too dumb to get any other kind of work.

Fresh grind

November's homo highlight, at least as of this writing, is yet another of those overcooked Filipino sweatfests about macho dancers and their sad little lives. *Burlesk King* is by the late Lino Brocka's heir apparent Mel Chionglo, and stars fetching Rodel Velayo as a young American-Filipino who arrives in Manila to find his abusive father and avenge his mother's death. Expect the usual bump 'n' grind follies, with fleshy bodies undulating under tacky colored lights, along with a soupçon of social commentary.

December finds us in territory at once quirkier and more familiar. Gary Walkow's *Beat* examines the inner workings of Burroughs, Ginsberg, the ill-fated Mrs. Burroughs, and various hangers-on during an early '50s trek through Mexico. Anyone expecting a hot *Beat* fuck will be disappointed;

doubt have plenty of homoerotic touches. The buddies in question are mentor Sean Connery, playing a reclusive author, and Jamal Wallace, a black athlete studying at an all-white prep school; they meet on the Internet. Hmmm: reclusive author "mentors" a hunky jock, they met on the Internet. Forget subtext; this sounds like a full-blown faggot melodrama.

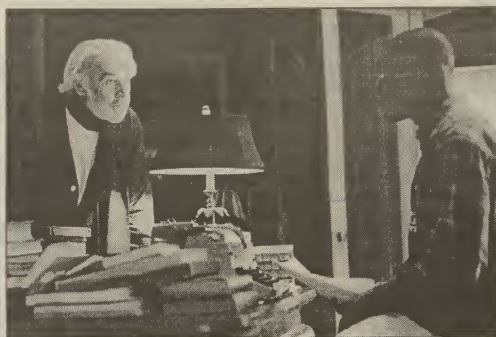
Also in the late fall is Philip Kaufman's *Quills*, a period drama about everyone's favorite historical pervert, the Marquis de Sade. Geoffrey Rush plays de Sade, and prissy Joaquin Phoenix prances through the part of a wacky priest. Not to spoil, but the film does answer the question of what to do when you're in prison and deprived of pen and paper—how about red wine and a chicken leg? Gus Van Sant is also allegedly working on a film about his *Wickedness*, *At Home with the Marquis de Sade*, but no details yet.

More queer history is mined in December by *Shadow of the Vampire*, E. Elias Merhige's fictional-

ized look at the filming of the silent horror film *Nosferatu*, by notorious queer director F. W. Murnau (John Malkovich). Willem Dafoe plays the creepy-looking star "Max Schreck," and whether he's really a vampire is open to question. Murnau's death is part of Hollywood's legend; supposedly, he died in a car wreck caused by blowing his chauffeur. With luck, *Shadow of the Vampire* will meticulously re-create this scene with lingering close-ups.

The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys isn't due on screens until early 2001, but with a title like that and the presence of Jodie Foster in bride-o'-Christ drag, it's too good to resist at least mentioning. Foster turned down the remake of *Silence of the Lambs* because the story was too ridiculous, so perhaps *Altar Boys* is actually less bizarre than its plot indicates. According to press notes, a bunch of 8th grade Southern Catholic boys get caught drawing dirty comics about priests ad nuns. Punished, they vow revenge against a "mean one-legged nun," Sister Ascension, played by La Foster. Hunky Vincent D'Onofrio adds inevitable queer spice as the coach of a boys' soccer league, but Foster deserves camp canonization not only for playing what sounds like one of the most outlandish characters in recent memory, but also for thoughtfully introducing a new kind of queer icon for jaded viewers to worship. ▼

Thanks to the many eager publicists and websites (notably Jenni Olson's inimitable popcornq and upcomingmovies.com) for their aid, conscious and otherwise, in helping compile this list.

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Alameda scores

by Mister Marcus

The theme for the Alameda County Leather Corps' leather event last weekend was "Heat," and in its ninth outing, the group managed to stage a hot contest and show. With Lenny Broberg and Crickett Watkins emceeing, the event stayed upbeat and moved along at a lively pace. Leather and drag mixed amiably. A silent auction took place, along with shenanigans both on and off stage. Fortunately, Karl Schuck and Marilyn Dickman kept everything under control.

Alas, there was only one contestant for each title, Bianca Binky for Ms. and Jeff Miranda for Mr. But hold on! Each had to score at least 60-percent of the total available points to win the title(s), so judges Donna Sachet, Bob Brunson, Greg Pennington, Steven Crouse, Lance Moore and Laurie Aguinaga put both Bianca and Jeff through the paces. As it turned out, they managed to make the desired scores and, after short and to-the-point stepping down speeches, Mark Ingham and Daddy Jean sashed the two and there was much jubilation in the crowd.

Both Bianca and Jeff will advance to the next levels of competition in the coming months. It was not



Bianca Binky, left, and Jeff Miranda were named Ms. and Mr. Alameda County Leather 2000 last Saturday night. They will go on to represent the Alameda county Leather Corps at the next level of competition in 2001.



Bazaar

stated whether Bianca would compete at Int'l. Ms. Leather or at the new Ms. Leather World title. But more on that at a later date.

A pleasant surprise of the evening was the awarding of the Lee Bell Award to the hard-working Tiffany Woods, who received

a standing ovation for a well-deserved honor.

Donna Sachet and Brian Benamati did great with song renditions. Shilo Herring managed to inspire everyone with both upbeat and inspirational numbers. Lenny Broberg managed to pull a hunk out of the crowd to auction off his Joe Boxer shorts and Crickett's "slip" — which Lenny managed to model, along with a nice set of boobs to go with the ensemble.

It was a lot of fun all evening and everyone came away with a warm feeling as well as assurance that the ACLC is alive and well in the East Bay.

At the Double L in Rehoboth Beach, they staged a contest but at my deadline late Sunday night, I had received no word as to who won. I'll get you for that, Darrell Moyers!

Meanwhile...

As we approach San Francisco Leather Pride Week next month, leather events are coming out of the woodwork. Among things to watch out for:

During the week, Int'l. Ms. Leather producer Amy Marie Meek will make it legal with for-

next page ▶



Lenny Broberg (in slip) and Donna Sachet (with faux-diamond necklace) corralled an unsuspecting hunk at the Alameda County Leather Contest last Saturday, August 26.

E V E N T U R E S I N L E A T H E R

Weekend, September 1-4

In California, the Satyr MC of LA stage their annual Badger Flat weekend run.

In Washington, DC, the Centaur MC start their Olympia XVI weekend in Oxford, Pennsylvania.

In New Orleans, it's Southern Decadence weekend, with the Mr. Louisiana Leather Contest and lots of fun. Thanks Chuck Lance for a great year with the title!

Friday, September 1

Pecs 'n' Nips party at the Powerhouse, produced by Chest Men International, at 2200. \$1 Fosters draft for the topless. Free coat/shirt check.

Sunday, September 3

Lance Brittain steps aside for Leather Daddy's Boy XVIII at the Eagle, 1500-1800, for \$8 beer/soda bust and a new sash in town.

Wednesday, September 6

Leathermen's Discussion Group at Club Eros, 1930. Topic "Terror: Creating Fear as Part of a Scene." For more info, call 551-0871 or click on www.leatherweb.com/LDG.

Thursday, September 7

THROB, a new women-only play party at Studio 253 in New York @ 253 E. Houston St.; \$20.

For more info call 718-788-5122.

Weekend, September 8-10

New Jersey Leather Pride 2000 weekend, with Queen Cougar emceeing the Mr. New Jersey Leather contest; Fire Storm Dance; Leather Mart; all at the Berkeley Cateret Ocean Front Hotel. Weekend package is \$85 and for more info, call (732) 999-1780.

Friday, September 8

In San Diego, the 3rd Annual Butch Revue at The Hole — always a fun time — staged by Annie Romano, the wife of IMsL Jo Blas.

Sunday, September 10

Golden Gate Guards beer/soda bust at the Lone Star.

Weekend, September 14-17

International Drummer & Drummer Boy contest weekend at the Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida. Hotel is sold out, but rooms available in nearby resorts. \$100 for weekend bunks.

Here in San Francisco, it's Bay Area Cub Weekend, choosing the SF Bay Cub Title. On Friday, Bears in Boxers party at the Lone Star; on Saturday, a Bear Sex Party at a private location; on Sunday, at 1500, Bear Cub Contest at the Lone Star. Be there!

Pop-up video

by John F. Karr

Some time ago I reviewed a strange little film called *Staten Island Sex Cult*. It had a lunatic plot and was pretty badly made, but did have some nifty music and sleazy guys. One in particular provoked me. Carlos Morales appeared in a solo that was sensational, yet was, nonetheless, a solo. I figured he was trade: a doe-eyed kid with a big dick making some bucks letting himself be ogled while he fondled himself with equal parts self-love and fuck-you. Still, he had creamy skin, a voluptuous body, pop-up nipples and the biggest, most handsomely proportioned tool. I fell for him in such a big way that I was even willing to excuse my pet peeve, a straight boy in a gay movie.

Carlos' only other video credit was as a masked participant in a gang bang, which seemed to confirm my hunch. But then all bounty was delivered upon me in the form of *Restless*, "a film by Michel Lucas." There, co-starred with that barrel-dicked and -chested Logan Reed, was my boy Carlos! And as this starring vehicle for him unfolded, I was quite literally stunned, as each succeeding scene was more tumultuously revealing than the last of just how amazingly not straight Carlo is.

Upset when Carlos seems restless after several years in their otherwise loving relationship, Logan seeks the advice of his friend Miguel Antonio, who confides that when his boyfriend got restless, he helped him get over it by secretly arranging for the building super to seduce him. We see this in flashback, a super scene with a hefty, hairy and hung Italian stud roughing up a smooth yet tawdry boytoy. There is an intense sport-fuck, unhurried and observed straight on. Lotsa fingerbanging, fierce fucking, and even a splash of

piss.

Logan, the naïf, wonders who he could get to render the same service unto his lover, and of course, Miguel volunteers. Now we get to see Carlos in full action. Straight? Only if I'm Marie of Rumania. When Carlos and Miguel bash their big boners against each other, Lucas dotes on Carlos' tool. Now we're at one of those moments that separates the

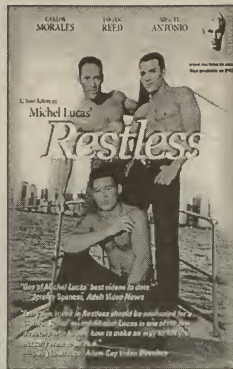
men from the movie reviewers, and I'm not afraid to say it: What a cock! Such a wealth of circumference, such a pristine and unblemished color, such a superb stiffness. And so passionately handled

by the handsome andumpy young stud who owns it.

You know, one day I'll get a Pulitzer Prize for this sort of fearless reporting. There'll even come a time when this really important news is on the front page, instead of which politician is currently constipated. And Carlos and his cock, believe me, are front page news. The boy is no slouch of a cocksucker, either, and he loves getting fucked, impaling himself on Miguel with impetuous force, and bouncing his big bazooka all over the place. And I once worried he was straight.

Tool of love

Now, I don't remember incredible sex with an overheated stranger being the agent that would make a fellow cling to monogamy, but this is fiction, after all, so Carlos rushes back to Logan's expectant arms. Reassured, Logan rewards Carlos with all his love, as well as a surprising collection of butt toys, and their subsequent application is an unparalleled demonstration of love expressed through lasciviousness. I've previously written a lot about dildos being used as either tools of aggression or sport. But rarely, if ever, have I seen one used as it is

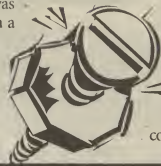


here, as a tool of love. With a ray of sun coming through the window falling artfully right on its entry, Logan screws a fat tool up Carlos' ass and the boy endearingly moans a whispered "Thank you" to his lover before Logan's cock is buried in his mouth. Carlos, captive beneath Logan, undulates artfully, so the dick at each end of his body works in deeper. And I thought he was straight.

Suddenly, there's a mean fuck in progress, except that it's Carlos fucking Logan, a surprise switch that throws the already mind-boggling action way into overdrive. Then the boys are rimming, and changing roles, with Logan banging Carlos, and I'm banging my knees together like a little girl who has to pee. And then Logan is peeing on Carlos, a heavy mainstream gush of piss that even anoints Carlos' face. And I thought he was... oh, you know. Then, in a final champion fuck, Logan savagely pushes the cum out of Carlos, who begs Logan not to stop so that he can deliver a second orgasm. I was in meltdown.

There you have it, an hour and 37 minute sensation, with a mere moment or two of plot exposition (and its wet scenes available only in the mail-order edition). So I think Michel Lucas is a pretty swell director, and I'll report on his other videos soon. But I wonder: Do I overpraise? Am I blinded by Carlos? Please help me, I'm falling. ▽

www.michelucas.com



Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

mer Int'l. Ms. Leather Megan DeJarlais, with a "wedding" ceremony over in the East Bay.

Lance Gear has managed to obtain the "official" documentary film of Int'l. Mr. Leather 2000 last May by that hunk Clint Cooper. Lance is also staging the IML2000 Reunion Party at the Powerhouse. SMMILE will host the leather world at their Press Party, also at the Powerhouse.

International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather will be chosen.

It appears as though the Leather Pride Walk will be a success with Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt at the helm. This year's walk is dedicated to the late Grant Dupont and Tony DeBlase. Immediately following the walk, which ends at the Eagle, at least six of the 13 Bare Chest Calendar 2001 men will be auctioned off for dinner dates and other goodies. Jerry Roberts has been working hard to produce another quality, value-filled afternoon on Sunday, September 17.

New statewide title

Two things to remember: Next

year, the new California Leatherman contest will be staged, filling the time slot vacated by the Drummer contest. Bonafide male, leather-oriented residents of California, from Chula Vista to the Oregon border, will be eligible to compete, and get this: the winner will compete at American Brotherhood in Washington, DC. Hey, that's a title worth fighting for!

And while we're talking about contests, mark your calendar now, or get prepared to either attend or compete for the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001 title. It will be staged on Friday, March 9th. Remember that! ▽

along with other works from the New York School and a smattering of everyone who was anyone in 20th-century art, with a strong bias toward California.

Also of special interest this fall is a retrospective of the films of Warren Sonbert, the brilliantly innovative local filmmaker who died of AIDS in 1995 at the age of 48. Sonbert, for those of you with short memories, was also an astute film critic whose musings about the work of other directors graced the pages of the B.A.R. for many years. The Wattis Theater at SFMOMA will screen *Friendly Witnesses: The Worlds of Warren Sonbert* on Sunday afternoons be-

tween October 26 and December 17.

Last but not least, draw a big red circle around Saturday, November 18, the day of the annual Big Deal, an exhibition/art sale that benefits artists living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Sponsored by Visual Aid, the first-come, first-served event offers an opportunity for people with average income to become art patrons. Every work of art is sold for \$85, and artists include Enrique Chagoya, Bruce Conner, etc. The line outside SOMArts Gallery (934 Brannan) usually forms early in the morning — or sometimes the night before. ▽

Lively arts

◀ page 33

world as seen through the eyes of San Francisco's runaway and homeless youth. The opening night reception is a benefit for the center.

SFMOMA is taking a big chance this fall by virtually emptying out its galleries, after Magritte and Goyer go away, to install the largest exhibition in its history. Three floors of the museum will be filled with selections from the private collection of Hunk and Moo Anderson, including Jackson Pollack's great *Lucifer*,

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon

Sound art

At the outset, the title is a bit confusing — most American music aficionados are used to the idea that "acoustic" music is distinct from "electronic" music, being mostly unplugged. Yet an expansive, impressive program beginning around town next week, "Acustica International San Francisco 2000," is all about electronic sound art. Thank the Germans for the interpretation.

It was at the behest of the Goethe Institute of San Francisco and its director, Dieta Sixt, that WDR Studio Akustische Kunst (Studio of Acoustic Art) agreed to come to San Francisco to showcase its artists and their distinctive sound stylings. The result is one of the most ambitious new-music fests to sweep through town in ages.

"Acoustic art is the melting pot of heterogeneous elements: noise, language and music organized by means of electronic techniques into a new, unique genre," says Klaus Schöning, the show's curator. The styles dominating the SF fest were developed in experimental studios in Germany, he explains, most notably at the Studio Akustische Kunst (Studio of Acoustic Art) of the WDR (West-German Broadcasting Station) in Cologne.

It was sound artist Bill Fontana who, in a sense, brought the Germans and Americans together. In 1987 he created "Sound Bridge Cologne-San Francisco," a sound sculpture acoustically linking the city on the Pacific with the one on the Rhine. It was broadcast live for one hour on more than 60 radio stations in Europe and the U.S., as well as being simultaneously presented in urban sound installations on public squares of San Francisco and Cologne.

That experiment has resonated widely through the sound-art communities throughout North America and Europe, and today sound art thrives here, there, and pretty much everywhere.

Fontana himself will open Acustica Int'l SF 2000 with a reception on September 7, from 6-7 p.m., at Refusalon (20 Hawthorne St.), where his sound installation will be on display through September. Fontana studied philosophy and music at the New School for Social Research in New York, and went on to create numerous installations in Germany, Japan, and the U.S.

The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art will get into the spirit with "Juke Box," a "Sound Journey into the Studio of Acoustic Art," featuring international composers and artists such as Fontana, John Cage, Nicola Sani and others who, in some way, were influenced by the Futurists, Dadaists and poets of Concrete Poetry, the founding fathers of sound art. The museum will also present a daily, changing, non-stop program of WDR productions. All this begins on September 11 at the Modern's Phillis Wattis Theater.

Sound art events will be taking place at such disparate locations as the Hawthorne Lane Bar, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, New Langton Arts, and Dolby Labs. Related sound-art happenings will occur at Catharine Clark Gallery and CCAC Institute (SF and Oakland). Look for updates in "Out & About" in the weeks ahead. ▼

For more information, phone 263-8760 or visit www.goethe.de/sanfrancisco

Antonio Sacre displays his talent at the San Francisco Fringe Fest at Exit Theatre. See Thursday.



Fri

Under One Roof

Labor Day Weekend sidewalk sale of decorative home accessories, giftware, stationery, garden items and other merchandise. Discounts up to 75% off. 100% of profits will benefit more than 50 AIDS service organizations in the Bay Area. 10am-8pm Fri. & Sat.; 11am-7pm Sun. 549 Castro St. (near 19th St.). Info: 503-2300; www.underonerof.org

SFMOMA

Opening: "The Darker Side of Playland: Childhood Imagery from the Logan Collection," including more than 30 playful and wicked works — drawn from the collections of Vicki and Kent Logan — by such contemporary artists as Gottfried Helnwein, David Levinthal, Takashi Murakami, Yoshitomo Nara, Laurie Simmons and Hung Tung-lu. \$9 gen'l adm. 11am-6pm daily (closed Wed.); open until 9pm Thur. Info: 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

Landmark's Shattuck Cinema, Berkeley

Opening night screening: "The Ballad of Ramblin' Jack," in which Aiyana Elliott turns her documentary camera on the life-story of her famous folk-musician father, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, the musical link between Woody Guthrie and

Bob Dylan. Featuring live music performance by the Bay Area's own singer-songwriter extraordinaire, Noe Venable, leading the Noe Venable Trio, with Alan Lin on violin and Todd Sickafoose on acoustic bass. 2230 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. Info: (510) 644-2992; www.LandmarkTheatres.com

Lone Star Saloon

Men of All Colors Together! hold their monthly chat night. Topic: "Other Colors." Refreshments served. Free. 7-9pm. 1354 Harrison St. (at 10th St.), 2nd floor. 675-0201; <http://go.to/mactsfba>

1015 Folsom

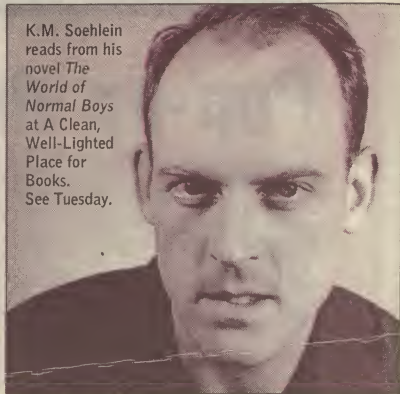
"Nikita," featuring five dance floors with house, techno, trance and drum & bass with resident DJ's Simon, Jerry Bonham, Taj, Gianni, Siren, Kaos, Method One and Kayar. \$10 (usually free b4 10:30pm). 10pm-6am. 21 + w/D. 1015 Folsom St, SoMa. Info: 267.0568; www.spundae.com

Sat

Yerba Buena Center

World premiere: "Corpus

K.M. Soehlein reads from his novel *The World of Normal Boys* at A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books. See Tuesday.



Evita," a dramatic, two-act opera boasting a neo-romantic musical score by Carlos Franzetti, English libretto by José Luis Moscovich, staging by Daniel Helfgot, and a cast of six singers and chorus of The San Francisco Camerata Americana, the only professional orchestra in the U.S. devoted exclusively to performing the music of Latin America. "Corpus Evita" puts the popularized Evita myth in perspective with a look at the struggles of Isabel Perón, who became President of Argentina by fluke in 1974. The opera's stark drama, where the ghosts of Evita and Juan Perón coexist with the living, chronicles Isabel's bungled tenure in office and follows, to the tragic end, her strange relationship with a sinister key advisor. \$20-\$30.

Dolores Park

The SF Mime Troupe concludes their tour of "Eating It," a musical satire set in the immediate future that brings together the creators of "Super Corn," a genetically enhanced vegetable, protestors at a world food conference, and time travel. Free. 1:30pm music; 2pm show. Info: 285-1717; www.sfmt.org

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema inaugurates its 15th year with "Cult Explosion!," a look at Scientology, "TV Ministry," "Holy Ghost Hysteria," Pat Robinson's hit on "Burning Man," Christian Scientists on "God's Little Things," plus other irreverent takes on "religion." \$5. 8pm. Artists Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.0

Centennial Hall Ballroom, Hayward

The Imperial Star Empire of Alameda and Contra Costa counties and the 21st Century Magic Kingdom Court of Fun, Fantasy & Fairytales presents "Coronation 2000 — Hellfire & Brimstone, An Evening in the Villain's Lair." With special guests Emperor XXI Jason Parkos Campbell-Winchell and Empress XXI Larissa Campbell-Winchell Parkos. \$25 donation. Doors

open 5pm; show starts 6pm prompt. 22292 Foothill Blvd (at City Center Dr.), Hayward. Info: ise.impcourt.org

Masonic Auditorium

The National Poetry Association presents "Celebration of the Word" featuring Maya Angelou, along with Quincy Troupe and Eugene Redmond, plus Oakland writer Guy Johnson, performances by the New Young Poetry Slam winners, a video on the NPA's 25-year history, and a tribute to founder Herman Berlanti. \$20 gen'l adm.; \$30 reserved. 1111 California. City: Tix Box Office, 392-4400. Info: www.nationalpoetry.org

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

Opening night: TheatreWorks presents Terrence McNally's "Master Class," a theatrical drama delving into the brilliant, fiery mind of opera diva Maria Callas. In the play, Callas hosts a "master class" for ambitious, often intimidated students who are subject to both her piercing criticisms and her memories, ranging from the triumphs of La Scala to her doomed love for Ari Onassis. \$20-\$38; 8pm Wed-Sat., 7:30pm Tue.; 2pm Sat. & Sun. matinees. Thru Sept. 24. Corner of Castro & Mercy streets, Mountain View. Info: (650) 903-6000; www.theatreworks.org

Sun

A Different Light

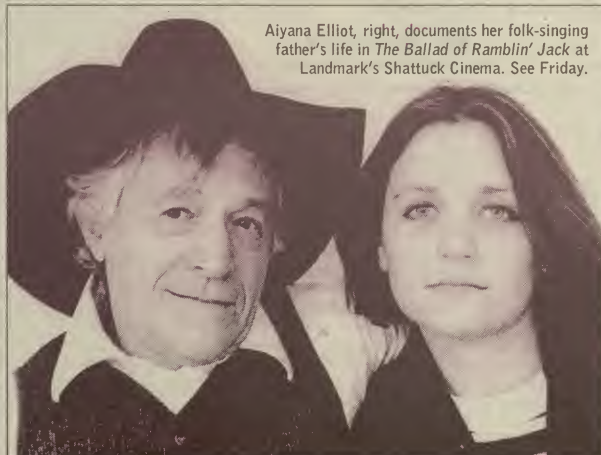
Two events: First, at 3:30pm, Linda Sutton reads from *Love Matter: A Book of Lesbian Romance*, a collection of heartfelt advice columns that will help lesbian couples validate and appreciate their unique relationships. Second, at 7:30pm, John Morgan Wilson reads from the *Limits of Justice*. Free. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"Visiting Mr. Green," by Jeff Baron, starring Dean Goodman as an elderly, retired dry cleaner who wanders into traffic on New York City's Upper West Side and is almost hit by a car driven by Ross Gardiner, a 29-year-old gay corporate exec. From there their two lives entwine. \$15-\$25 (\$13-\$23 with Pride Season subscription). 8pm. Thru Sept. 10. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"The Fitting Room," written and directed by Kathryn G. McCarty, a series of interconnected vignettes involving an array of people — a business woman, a widower and his young daughter, a gay man and his best friend, and elderly couple, teenagers on a wild adventure, etc., as encountered from a peek inside a



Aiyana Elliott, right, documents her folk-singing father's life in *The Ballad of Ramblin' Jack* at Landmark's Shattuck Cinema. See Friday.

ladies dressing room. Co-presented by the Gaitean Players. \$15. 8pm. Thru Sept. 10.

Paradise Lounge

The Tuck & Roll Players present "Club Inferno," a rock 'n' roll drag revue created and produced by Peter Fogel and Kelly Kittell. Starring Connie Champagne, Arturo Galster, Leigh Crow, Trauma Flintstone, Kennedy, Peter Fogel, and Birdie-Bob Watt. Will Danté ever find her way back to the world of the living? \$15. 8pm. 308 11th St. 621-1911.

Mon

Piaf's

QComedy.com presents a special comedy benefit for Hank Wilson, candidate for Supervisor in District 6. Join host Blake and fellow comedians Lisa Geduldig, Dan Rothenberg, Mike Meehan, Mary C. Matthews, Aundre the Wonderwoman, and Jung Park. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). 541-5610.

Metronome Ballroom

Harvey Milk Institute presents "Fred-Fred & Ginger-Ginger Partner Dance Program," an 8-week Ballroom/Latin dance class taught by Douglas Mitchell, the same-sex ballroom-dance director for the Metronome Ballroom. Mitchell also teaches variety classes on Wednesdays and Lindy Hop Level 1 on Thursdays. \$112 for each 8 week section; \$98 for 7 week sections. 6-7pm. 1830 17th St. (at DeHaro, Potrero Hill District). Info/registration: 552-7200; www.harveymilk.org

Tue

A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books

K.M. Soehnlein reads from his debut novel, *The World of Normal Boys*, a story about growing up and falling apart, rebellion and acceptance, the power of adolescent desire, and the tenuous hold of the family. Free. 7:30pm. 601 Van Ness Ave. 441-6670.

El Rio

Opening night: Fourth Annual MadCat Women's Int'l. Film

A scene from *Happy Are the Happy*, screening at the MadCat Film Festival at El Rio. See Tuesday.



Festival, taking place with six different programs through September. Tonight, Program 1: "World Travelers of the Mind," a series of shorts about survivors. *Happy Are the Happy* looks at Bosnian, Jewish, and Romany refugees; Korean filmmaker Sungyeon Jon's animation *Grandma* traces her grandmother's WWII experiences; Tina Gharavi's *Closer* is a poignant documentary about a working-class lesbian; *Dream* follows a woman into the subway station and evolves into a surreal trip to the moon; dreams are not always attainable in the animated *Golden Spire* Winner *Window*; in *House Taken Over*, a house slowly crumbles as its inhabitants attempt to maintain order; *Su Friedrich's Every Space They Wander* adapts three short stories from folktales from India, Jakarta, and Ireland. 3158 Mission St. (at Precita). Doors open 6:30pm for free BBQ; show start 8:30pm. Program 1 repeats Sept. 7 at Artists Television Access, 992 Valencia St. (at 21st St.) and Sept. 8 at Pacific Film Archive, 2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: 436-9523; www.somaglow.com/madcat

SFMOMA

"Free Tuesday," the final day to view the popular Magritte exhibition. Also last day for summer hours, 10am-6pm

(starting Thurs., Sept. 7, the museum will open every day at 11am, excluding Wednesdays, when it is closed). Free (regularly \$9 gen'l. adm.). 151 Third St. Info: 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

SFSU

Opening reception: The Art Gallery at the Cesar Chavez Student Center presents "Dear diary," a look into the hearts and minds of 24 artists, curated by Jenni Cossey and Mirella Pejic. Free. 5-8pm. San Francisco State University, 1650 Holloway Ave. Info: 338-2730; sfsustudentcenter.com

Wed

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: NCTC's *Pride* Season VI presents the West Coast premiere of *The Velocity of Gary (Not His Real Name)*, starring Danny Pintauro, written by James Still, directed by Mark Cannistraro. Pintauro (formerly of ABC-TV's *Who's the Boss*) portrays a naive gay hustler trying to make it on the mean streets of Manhattan, armed only with a lucky pair of leopard-print underwear. Opens Sept. 9. \$18-\$30 (\$15-\$25 with season subscription; Sept. 7 is "Pay As You Wish

Community Night"). 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (at Market), lower lobby. Tix: 861-8972.

Liquid

"Progress" welcomes guest DJs Gysbert Schiffmacher of Germany and Ollie Vaughn, with resident DJ Joseph Lee. Good sounds, gay vibes, unpretentious space. Cover charge. The usual club hours. 21+ w/D. 2925 16th St. 789-8565.

Thu

Exit Theatre

Opening-night party and performances: "SF Fringe Theatre Festival," 11 fun-filled days of non-censored, non-censored theatrical pieces, featuring 250 performances by 52 local, national and international companies. Produced by Christina Augello and Richard Livingston for Exit Theatre. They acknowledge "the dizzying amount of choices can give you vertigo." With lots of extra activities, such as a "Club Fringe" for beer-drinking and socializing; an actor's gym, "The Train Station"; spontaneous "Gorilla Fringe" musical moments on the streets; and "Bring Your Own Venue" outings to sites in Golden Gate Park. Shows held downtown at Exit Theatre (156 Eddy), Exit Stage Left (156 Eddy), Il Teatro 450 (449 Powell, 3rd fl.), Lorraine Hansberry Theatre (620 Sutter, sheehan Hotel), and Phoenix II (653 Geary, downstairs). Tonight: three shows at each venue, at 7, 8:30, & 10pm (7 shows nightly at each venue on Sat. & Sun.). Showtimes prompt; no latecomers admitted. Never more than \$8 per show; \$55 "Frequent Fringer Passes" good for 10 shows. Tix: 931-1094; www.ticketweb.com. Info: www.sffringe.org. Free catalogs available at cafes, bookstores, and other outlets.

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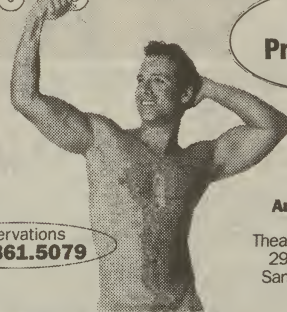


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Genetically altered foods receive the SF Mime Troupe treatment in *Eating It* at Dolores Park. See Friday.

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PARTING GLANCES

Bagdad Cafe You Eating Alone!
7/20 11:30pm. I had dark hair sitting across from you. To shy to smile until I left. You tan boots, left in jeep. "Dessert?" ☎ 72202

Sun 7/16/00 Muni/ West Portal
You: curly w/yellow shirt, handkerchief around neck, glasses, shorts, writing on pad. Me: Asian, older couldn't stop staring. "Let's talk!" ☎ 72203

Badlands Sat Nite 7/29
You: short blonde hair, beautiful smile in green v-neck t-shirt with black/white trim. Me: Asian, short hair in white daruma doll t-shirt. Should have said hello. Too shy. Meet for coffee? ☎ 72231

Dave, Sun 7/23 Tower Records...
You helped me find Linda Eder in vocals. You bought mamma cass. We talked and you liked my accent. I'd love to go further. Date? Please call! ☎ 72204

N. We Met On July 30 While
Sitting outdoors of a bar on 18th Street I regret not to have exchanged telephone numbers. Please call me. ☎ 72229

Whole Foods Deli, Mon 7/24 4-45
You: grey top, khakis. Me: blue sportcoat, tan shirt. Your smile captured my imagination. Too stunned, I barely "smiled" back. Can do much better. Would love to meet you. ☎ 72230

Tues. 7/18-Bart/ Fremont;
You: tall blond/thinning, blue eyes, green. wear. Me: jacket, tie, brown/thinning, green eyes. Both boarded Civic Cir, you waved, exited Coliseum. I smiled. Coffee? Movie? ☎ 72232

Rincon Center Thurs Aug 3
Chris. We met in the elevator and met again by the post office. You took my hand. Waited for you at 6:15. Still hoping. Michael. ☎ 72256

Richmond Bart 8-5 Afternoon
You: shaved head, goatee?, tall, converse sneakers. Me: Asian, shaved head, tattoo. Made eye contact across car. I left @ Ashby. we smiled @ each other thru window. Let's talk. Coffee? ☎ 72257

Andy, Lush Lounge Sat 7/29
Your great smile and smoldering looks caught me off guard and left me speechless. I would love a second chance to ask for your number. Coffee, dinner, talk? Gene. ☎ 72258

Costco Elevator Aug 3rd
I held door open for you. You: Great smile! Dark and handsome. May I have the pleasure again? Dinner? ☎ 72293

David And Garth-San Gregorio
Beach. This is David and Woody from Utah. We met Friday 7/28. Had a great time- would like to keep in touch. Please call if interested. ☎ 72259

Sexy Asian Feet In The Park
Months ago I licked mud from your toes while you jacked off. I would love to lick your feet again. ☎ 72290

White Electric Van Blond Goatee
Fri 8/11 at 1pm Diamond Hts.Bld, Village Square Apts. You: in overalls, asked if I wanted ride downtown. Me: sitting on low wall, blue shirt, blue tennis shoes, said a friend was picking me up. ☎ 72291

Kabuki Spa Thurs 8-10 6pm
You (GWM) were coming while I (GAM) was leaving. Shared mutual smiles. You said I was a "good looking guy". I replied "aw shucks." I'd like to buy you a drink! ☎ 72292

Checked Out At The Check Out
Costco check out. You: tall, handsome, blond. In next line over. Noticed tattoo on rt leg. Smiled as you were leaving. Me: green shirt, and pants, with boss. Wish I could do more than smile! Dinner? ☎ 72294

Yasmin At Power Exchange 8/13
Sunday after midnight--you asked if you could call, I gave name to look up. If still interested, leave message & e-mail or phone where I can reach you. And yes, I love to cuddle! Alan from Oakland. ☎ 72306

Baker Beach Parking Lot, 8/10
You: gorgeous Asian man giving massage to friend on bench. Me: man in silver car who couldn't take his eyes off you. You left too quickly. Call me. ☎ 72307

-Can't Stop Thinking About U!-
On Muni, we got on @ Church St., rode to Civic Center on 8-17 @ 6:30pm. You: White jeans, blue plaid shirt, leather baseball cap. Me: red hair, black pants, gray shirt. Call! ☎ 72308

Muni Tues Aug 15
You: handsome Asian with great arms & torso. Me: tall, caucasian, goatee, glasses. Sat behind you, rode Muni escalators at Church St. To shy to speak. Coffee? Lunch? Dinner? ☎ 72309

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Slowly But Surely
GWM, 40, 5'11", 175lbs, fun, sincere, affectionate, fit, seeking friendship, relationship and then sexual intimacy with 35-45 year old honest, sincere non-smoker (n/d, n/alcohol) male. Like movies, dinners, yoga, hiking, biking, dancing. ☎ 72205

Handsome Italian
40, 6'2", 185lbs, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times, seeks another HIV- negative well hung man who is honest and sincere for monogamous relationship. ☎ 72206

-GWM ISO GWM Sweetheart-
Who's affectionate, warm & humorous, HIV-, 32-46, enjoys outdoors, movies, dining out, kissing & cuddling. Me: GWM, HIV-, a young 42, 5'9", 175lbs, brn/blu. ☎ 72207

Young Handsome Russian!
Looking for other intelligent Russians or Europeans under 40yo, to give my body and soul. No disappointment guaranteed. ☎ 72208

Single, San Sober, Sensuous...
GWM, 48, 185lbs, uncut, c&s, hairy, balding, versatile. Tkg any age for dating and/or playing/regular sex. Very sexual, sane, and sensuous! ☎ 72209

Older Gentleman Seeks Younger
Attr. GWM, 76, 5'7", 165lbs, seeks a loving-sensual friendship, poss. ltr, with a serious 18-45 man. Let's do the Folsom and Castro St.Fair together! ☎ 72210

-Seeking Mr. Not Perfect!!!!-
GAM 31yrs with goatee and good, honest, personality seeks fun, interesting, jovial person to share walks on beach, movies and intimate dinners. ☎ 72211

Slave Seeks Master
A rare Master is out there somewhere. Seeking strong connection between Master, service, painplay, "spiritually," and trust/connection to wholly leap into capable hands. Slave tall/slim defined, 38. ☎ 72263

"Any Gay Magic Players?"
New to area. Prof. GWM 32, non-smoker, ISO friends, companion and ltr. Let's explore the city together. Enjoy movies, walks on beach, playing collectible card games.... ☎ 72212

As Long As You Lode Me...
I don't care who you are, where you coming from... Nice Brazilian, masc, 36y, 5'7", 142lbs, hard w8 uncut, looking for GWM or Latino, under 40. Hard love is waiting. ☎ 72213

2 Intense For One Man
W/LTM a couple between 30 & 50 hairy, slender to well built tops or versatile. Me 6'3", 45 look 40, 215#, masculine, blue collar mus/van dyke versatile & affectionate/ HIV-! ☎ 72214

Sexy Package Sks Covering Material
Sometimes emotional, always nurturing, intense sex appeal to others, absolute bedroom eyes, shy when most important but internally confident, 5'8", 29, 155, dark featured, Scorpio, favorable package. Turn on: deep-minded, witty, & calm-natured. ☎ 72215

Asian ISO White Male
Asian male, 36, 160lbs, 5'7", attractive built, smooth, fun. In search of White male in their 30's, smooth, built, lean for friends and date. ☎ 72233

Seeking Man To Love For LTR
I am 5'8", 140#, 35, slim/athletic. Handsome Japanese. Bk/hair-eye, mustache. HIV-. Looking for a serious man, 55+ over. Interested in ltr/monogamous-oriented. W/hair A+. Serious only pls. call. ☎ 72234

Blond Seeking Hung Blond Top!
44yo, musc tanned, smooth, 150, 5'8" HIV- great ass, educated, East Bay, friendly, romantic, bottom. ☎ 72235

VGL Latino Boy ISO Older Man
You: 33-50, good looking, financially secure, and fun to take care of a great boy. You won't be sorry! ☎ 72236

Bottom For Bottom Or Top
GWM, 42, 6', 165lbs. HIV+, Italian/German, brown/hazel, beard seeks lean snuggly buddy 5'10" or taller, 30-45 for cuddling. ☎ 72237

Travis Where Are You?
I've been four years. I need to see you. Last time I saw you, you were bald and working at a cafe @Haight and Masonic. P.S. Black male! Remember? ☎ 72238

Uncut, Hung-9, Hairy, Masc, Musc
GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, balding, mustache/goatee, versatile dad, ISO musc/musc fit man, great butt, nice cock, "nipple work", verbal, light s&m, rough, tender, kiss & cuddle. Live on east coast, visiting S.F. Oct. Nude photo required, butt photo get mine. I am HIV- poz/ok! ☎ 72239

GAM Top 4 GWM
GAM seeks mature GWM; HIV- n/d; healthy w/ht proportionate for a friend/more. Slim & offer a plus but not mandatory. ☎ 72260

Aggressive Asian Men
GWM wishes to meet and establish a long time love relationship with Asian men. Let's hold, touch & kiss each other. I love to suck a long time. ☎ 72261

Big Man For You
Attractive, top, GWM, 50, 350lbs. You: attractive GM (White, Asian, Latin), slim. My arms hold what the world lacks. Hugs & kisses come first. ☎ 72262

Gay Eagle Scout Seeks Soulmate
All American guy, seeks outdoors type man for LTR. 45yo, HIV+, no meds, master. Prepared, reg nurse, serious only please. ☎ 72264

Attractive Fun GWM
40 GWM 6'4" 230 professional- All American- seeks 36 to 42- San Jose to SF- 5'8" or taller- single, emotionally available- sense of humor- romantic- dating- LTR. ☎ 72265

RU HIV+ Masc. Top?
Haw/Flp 41 5'5" 152 HIV+ btm w/insatiable appetite smooth affectionate & honest. Seeks masc. top-man w/insatiable appetite in shape or stocky built 30-55 old. For romance to last nasty times LTR possible. Into cuddling, kissing, massage, movies, dinner, rimming. ☎ 72266

Sweetheart Single Latin HIV+
GLM-37, 5'8"-150lb; athletic/masc, honest. Looking for any race, under 40yrs, smooth & slim. Versatile or top, like movies, dining reg, like sex, dancing. ☎ 72314

Young Handsome Russian
Looking for an intelligent Russian or European under 40yo. to give my body and soul. No disappointment guaranteed! ☎ 72295

Are You Under 5'10"?
SF professional GWM, blond, balding, very fit 43, 5'9", 155, HIV- (ub2), seeks vers. or top. I'm masculine, honest, stable, social drinker with a dry humor. Prefer shorter/fit. ☎ 72296

Lets Make A Home
Passionate, intense top looking for life partner. 5'10", 147#, 32yrs. olive skinned professional. Seeks man 38+, mature, stable for monogamous LTR. Not into bars. NS/ND. ☎ 72297

Son Seeks Hirsute Dad
W/M 43, masculine, buzzed, bald, beard, 6', 172, hairy, active submissive, healthy poz. My life is interesting, adventurous and together. Travel, leather, home, enthusiasm. ☎ 72310

Professional Black Men
GWM, bottom, always horny loves to lay down and suck you for a long time. I also loved to be fucked on a LTR. Steady sex. ☎ 72311

Hot Bottom Seeks Dominant Top
Looking for hot top to play deep in me. Into bondage, light pain & you. I'm 45, White, smooth and need a Master. ☎ 72312

-GWM Looking For Romance-
GWM 53 5'9" 170lb. seeking GWM 40 to 60 HWP for dating, movies etc. (n/d/n/alcohol) Interested in a relationship. ☎ 72313

"Financially Secure Male Wanted"
By a guy who is educated, intelligent, sexy, good looking. Looking for a relationship or just plain hanging-out. ☎ 72315

GAM 49 Seeks GWM 60 or Over
For LTR, prefer clean shaven and non-smoker. ☎ 72316

All The Wrong Places
Handsome, furred, tall, musical, HIV+ GWM, 36, seeks smart comely, oversexed bottom "boy" with huge vocabulary, nice manners and evil grin for penetrating conversation, PDAs, afternoon nookie and civilized disobedience. ☎ 72317

-Single Attractive So. Bay Guy-
Versatile 39, 5'6", 170#, athletic, very muscular, brn/blu, healthy HIV+, seeks masculine guys for theatre, movies, beach, biking, early sex, top or possible LTR. "Don't underestimate this one!" ☎ 72318

ISO Athletic Asian- RU GYM Toned?
Six pack, great abs. Want to meet prof. Asian. Call me. ☎ 72267

Wired Funny
-Black male, 5'10", 180, 42, dark, smooth, muscular, masculine, educated professional, into books, cycling, work-outs, etc. Straight acting, regular guy, but totally submissive in bed. Seeking muscular, masculine dominant top. - ☎ 72319

Bi-Curious RWC Stud
M/W/M, 35, 5'10", 155, gkyng, sincere, clean, shy, horny. ISO 18-35 local studs for hot, discreet encounters... All suggestions considered. S 72320

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Black On Top, Brown On Bottom
Penetrating Black top man, 46, seeks a masculine, mature Hispanic male who enjoys receiving a hot back door pounding. Chunky build, dark hair and mustache A+. "Serious!!!" ☎ 72216

I Need To Lick Boobs!
Older guy seeks hunks into this scene. will lick, polish, even clean be & sole with my tongue. Transport me to ecstasy. ☎ 72217

Scorpio Boy Handsome Athletic
Me: 35, 5'3", 175# brn hair & eyes cleaned shaved, smooth chest, kissing & touching. Very important. You be 40-45 good shape hairy chest A+. No smokers or drugs HIV+ myself, you be too! ☎ 72218

Hey Nipple Fans!
You'll like mine. Fleishy with standup centers. This senior likes them, twisted, and I want to see what you like! Mutual cocksucking too! ☎ 72219

Son Seeks Submissive Dad
W/M 44, masculine, hairy top, seeks older businessman, masculine, in-shape, deep throat, into spanking dad, role playing A+. ☎ 72221

Daddy Seeks Son
Very discreet clean and classy 50yo. man desires the company of a cute intelligent young buck for fun, frolic and more. ☎ 72222

White Guy Seeks Hung Men
GWM 40, 6'0, 185, and goodlooking, seeks hot well hung men for oral, and more. All nationalities are welcome. No one over 40 please. ☎ 72240

Two Become One
35, WGM, HIV+ great humor, love outdoors, love the beach, love great old movies, seeks someone with same interest, 40-50, HIV+ into the same. Bottom. ☎ 72241

One-Wild Fuck
WM 35 5'10", 195lb blond/blue versatile muscle man, likes to get wild all nite long. Call anytime. Also love to get massaged. ☎ 72242

Good Problem To Have
I fuck all my buddies, it must be the tall-dark-handsome thing. I want a guy (couples are fun) too, to fuck me. I'm 45, HIV-safe sex only. Call, describe yourself. ☎ 72243

BAR TALK

PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
Seeking Relationship ☐
Seeking Adventure ☐
Lesbian ☐
Fetishes ☐
Couples ☐
Others ☐

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
Address _____ Evening Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

East Bay Cock Sucker Seeking
A local tool to service. Any age/race. I'm HIV-, White, 6', 160#, 40's. Porn tastes while servicing? Cancond same close up? **72244**

Thick Tool
GWM, 5'7", loves chewing nipples and giving lots of rim. Mornings or early afternoon. Older a big plus. **72220**

Magic Hands
I give long slow intense erotic massages to formal training, but by the intuitive touch. Bi's, straights, very discreet, versatile, and safe. No reciprocation required. **72245**

How Blunt Can I Be?

I need my vintage Black Oakland tool sucked 2-3x weekly by an experienced expert. Please no beginners, beard/queats, indirect phone sks. **72246**

Blk Guy Sks Top Dom Aggressive
+ Raunch, Nink, sleaze + eve & some wk ends. **72273**

Hey! Wanna Wrestle?

Fit, 6'2", 175lb. 40y.o. GWM wants to wrestle fit, playful guys for fun, submission, and/or pins. Trunk/vic, Speedos, nude. Your fantasies welcome. Maybe winner decides loser's "punishment"? **72247**

Get Naked And Jack Off

Well hung exhibitionist wants to stroke tool with other naked men. Indoors or outdoors. Strip down, pose and show off, big hard cocks. Group scenes and dare get bigger erections! **72248**

Virile Encounters

Sought by GWM (out of town), 60, 6'2", bearded bear with Bay Area men over 6' during monthly overnight visits: maybe dinner and a show. **72249**

Seeking Hot Hung Thick Top

Sophisticated bottom visiting SF in August. Looking to have a good time, 5'8", 130lbs. Hazel/grey, brown hair, 40yrs old. Well hung a plus. **72250**

Hoos & Skimasks

Blade collar skinhead, 28, tattoos gives hot blow guys wearing ski masks, hoods, beanies, derby jackets. Have ski mask collection; dy chloas, tops. Santa Clara. **72251**

Spunk Me

Cute frat boy 24 needs lover the knee action from a dominant jack brother. China town SF. **72268**

Generous Handsome Professional
In-shape Asian professional 40 seeks goodlooking in-shape HIV- bottom or versatile guy with class for regular companionship. **72269**

Spanking And Affection

GWM, 49, 5'10", 170, bearded, hairy seeks attractive men, under 50, prefer hairy into hot, sensual, give and take bare bottom spanking along with kissing, cuddling + j/o. **72270**

GAM Seeks Ongoing Sex Partner
Who enjoys cockworship. GWM mature. Versatile; HIV- n/d; slender/slim bottom a plus. Pos LTR. **72271**

Blow Job Service

Asian, 50, 5'8", 150#, goodlooking, HIV-, mustache, clean-cut, excellent cocksucker, seeks GWM, HIV-, with hairy body, mustache, goatee or beard on regular basis. **72272**

Shut Up And Ride

35, WM, 5'10", 195lb, blond-blue, muscular, versatile guy wants goodlooking masculine men to fuck with all nite long. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. **72274**

Black On Black

I want a Black man 29 to 55 for fun and more. Let me take out wine and dine you. I am 45, 6'2" lbs. I like 8" to 10" of tool on you. **72275**

Bicurious

GWM, 61/180/42, gym body, divorced, Irish-Irish, nice package, looking to serve WM, smooth and hung. HIV neg ub2. Let's do it! **72276**

Dominant Black Men Who Enjoy
Using their submissive White fuck toy cocksucker for their personal enjoyment GWM 5'8", 155 hairy and very obedient for you. **72277**

Black Top Wanted

Attractive GWM straight acting, but very submissive, seeking Black tops to orally service and be dominated by. Prefer clean, well built men who can take control. **72279**

Wanna Cum Over?

GWM, 45, 5'9", brown/brown, mustache, in-shape, attractive, HIVneg, single seeks fun-loving healthy hunt 5'8" or shorter. Afternoon tea? Upper Market. **72299**

Hot Italian Sks Big Cock

Hot & horny Italian bottom, 45, 6', seeks studs 18-40 for the best oral sex and ass eating you've ever had! **72302**

ISO Top For Weekday Romp!
Versatile cub, 30, 5'6", 169#, trim stache, furry tummy & butt. ISO top or versatile WM 25-45 for ongoing after-work romp. Couples encouraged, facial hair a plus. **72300**

Nympho Asian/American Bottom
Blacks hung thick wanted, 3 to do me one time. HIV- bottom, likes if, toys all but pain. Hot!! SF Bay Area 40's late 30's. **72301**

Cute Guy w/Boy Body Loves Butt Play
Sexy, masc, yng 40s, bmbm, stache, goatee, 5'7", 145# well proportioned, very nice butt, positive attitude, sincere, free spirited looking to hook up and have fun! You: masc, 30-45, 5'8" + **72303**

Rant Fantasy: Make Me Take

Your hard thick, u/c meat between my kissable lips, nice, hairy scobs. Non-freak, regular, naturally handsome 5'11", 155# 30's athletic, nice. You: Same, dark(?), playful in-shape-ish: **72278**

Buttfucker Wanted

ISO top, 35 & under. GWM, masc., 6' + Me: submissive bottom, GAM, 5'9", 160, 35, gdlg, straight acting, into t, dildos. **72304**

Fat Daddies Have The Best Laps

And the fleshiest spanking hands for little lads? Bubble butts, like mine. Slay your meaty thigh and bend me over, butt up, feet dangling, for a hot thorough pounding. **72321**

Straight Has 3 Part Fantasy

Masculine WM 58 seeking older smaller than normal sized Asian to fuck my face and virgin ass finishing by jacking off on my face. Safe sex practice during ass play. **72298**

Oral Excellence

Friendly 49yr has opening for 1-2 face-fuckin' studs. Hot mouth, deep throat soothe achin' nuts, restore senility! Work me, buddy. Big tool essential! Trim build, facial hair A+. **72322**

I Wanna Suck Your...

Cock & ass. Do you like prolonged sessions w/a hot tongue buried up your butt? Mouth around your cock? If so, I'm your man. Italian, 45, 6', 195#, rugged build stud w/goatee. **72323**

Gay Artists, I'm Looking For

Gay Artists, so we can get together and discuss art and other things. Please contact me. **72329**

Torrid Phone Sex!
"Strip!" get it up! lube, cocking, nipple clamps, whatever? Let your imagination run. Let's talk, jack off, and cum! **72324**

Times Change! In Days Of Yore
It was courteous. My proof, I'm a master cocksucker(my guys) you will too! **72325**

Italian Guys I Was Born To
Serve you. No one knows how to please Italian guys better than me. If you're hung, then that's a plus. **72326**

Mulatto Guy, Sexy, Educated,
Intelligent, creative, good looking; seeks guy who are good-looking or hung for fun and good times. **72327**

Hung Guys Wanted! I'm Looking
For guys who are hung "9" inches or more for fun or good times Please contact me. **72328**

Sprl Yr Cheeks Ride My Tongue
Expert butt eater, 41, 6', 170 lbm/blue big bushy mustache looking for hot trim edible butts, George. **72330**

Seeking Wild JO Partner 65+
Masculine straight WM wants to be tied down and have cock tormented until it screams for release. **72331**

Suck Washer!

GWM 35, handsome, will appreciate your warm, moist nylon socked feet after a hard day's work. Manual/oral massage feels great while you lie back. Relax, melt, release. Businessmen, waiters, uniform a plus. **72332**

LESBIAN

DBF Seeks Loyal PWM Slave
I demand your attention, and total devotion. Serious only need apply. On your knees before me, that's where you belong! **72223**

"A Great Catch!"
GF seeks WPM European for marriage of convenience or circumstance. **72333**

FETISHES

Daytime Asshole-Eater!

Get your asshole eaten by a pro! **72287**

Pig Hole Puck Fest
29yo top seeks bottom who love their holes punched and made sloppy. Let's get those lips big and saggy. Facial hair A+. In SF only. **72224**

Horse Hung Guy Seeks Others
Very goodlooking BM, 30, 5'11", clean-cut/shaven, muscular 190lbs., hung 10" seeks horse hung guy, any age/weight/age for hot fun! All answered. **72225**

"18 To 26 Yr Old Black Cock!"
Desired for occasional sucking by good looking young, hung, WM. I dream of being on my knees for your beautiful, hard, Black, meat. I'll be your slave. Squir on me. **72226**

Daddy Wanted For A Diaper Boy
I am 38, 6', 195 lbm, hair, hazel eyes into being diapered, spanked and threatened like your son. Ltr preferred. You over 45. **72227**

Mutual Spanking
WM 40, seeks others into mutual spanking scenes in Castro. No pushy bottoms please. **72253**

FF Bottom Wanted
50's GWM, HIV-, with big hands and wrists seeks GWM, HIV-, with accommodating hole for exploring and pleasure. Arom/herbs ok. **72252**

Seeking Big Tool With Big Load
Masculine mostly straight WM 58 wants to watch you stroke your throbbing cock. See, feel your hot cum splatter my face then wash it clean with natures golden nectar. **72254**

Two Heads Are Better Than One
81, W/M in Oakland, HIV+, open and discreet, seeks singles or couples for oral pleasures. Shaved a plus. **72280**

Muscular? Gym Toned? Need Bath?
You: muscular, gym toned, prefer nicely. No strings. I want to give you a bubble bath with no strings. But if it happens, fine. **72281**

I'm A 2nd Slave
And don't come. Am 57 & healthy. You order me to prepare buddy's hole, drink ws, + watch you screw. I clean you & him, then leave. # **72282**

Erotic Rope Bondage
Bondage top, GWM, 42, 5'8", 155, good-looking, HIV-, seeks masculine, in-shape submissive bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage, gag, toys, discipline, light sm negotiable. Safe, trustworthy. SF/East Bay. **72283**

Drag Queen Threesome Fantasy
Me: Bi-male 52, ISO drag-queens for fun: pluses: red-heads, cigar smokers, 69, French, Greek, -j/o, be my teacher. **72284**

Enememate Desired
40's bi DWM, trim, clean, HIV(-), sincere sensual, discreet seeks exploring all facets. **72285**

I'll Serve You Deeply
Handsome, sexy, professionals, w/office or quiet rest/room in area during or after business hours. Masculine, clean, discreet. **72286**

Bootlicker ISO LTHR Granddad
In-shape, 45yo blond son/bot to provide orall anal services to hung 60+ granddad into sm, b/d, w/s and other perverse pleasures. **72288**

East Bay Nipple Freak
P/R Cuban 8/8M seeks masculine men for hot sex and friendship. New to the East Bay/Lake Merritt area. Nipple workers A+. **72305**

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! **72334**

Slaved Boy Wanted
By leather top, 50's, 6', 225, hairy chest, masc, with dungeon. U8 submissive oral, bottom into s/m, kinky, eager to serve. Muscular, hairy, under 45 pref. **72335**

"Plain-Looking, But Hung!"
East Bay man 47, gets off watching a thick mustache up and down on my thick stick. Oakland area; serious. No beards/goatees, super busy or hard to reach types. **72336**

OTHERS

Circuit Boy Sex Party
Are you defined, buff, muscle jock who enjoys having sex in a comfortable environment with other hot muscle studs? If this ad peeks your curiosity, then gives us a call. You won't be disappointed. **72228**

Married, Straight Needs Hung 10+
In Vallejo will travel works in SF. Want hung thick cocks or pretty tits or and feminine men. **72289**

Latex Sex
...is safe sex. Wear a condom. **SAFE**

Lavender Tube

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and Celtic hunk Gabriel Byrne plays a divorced dad in the NBC sitcom, *Madigan Men*, about an Irish émigré, his father and Gen X son. Did we miss the funny part? Oscar-winner Ellen Burstyn plays the matriarch of a sports-mad family and mother of a 36-year-old daughter who decides to go back to school in the CBS sitcom *That's Life*. Woof! Brat-packer John Cramer plays a nutcase on ABC's *The Trouble with Normal* (we already know what the trouble is — it's not funny). And the dog guy from *Providence* plays Ed in NBC's sitcom about a small-town lawyer who works out of bowling alley. Look out, Johnny Cochran!

We have some hope for CBS sitcom *Bette* starring Guess Who. At least we know the Divine Miss M is funny. Her material may not be, but we never saw a network go for the queer audience so blatantly. The CBS promo has Richard Hatch, aka Fat Naked Fag, "dressed" like he's still naked on *Survivor* island being asked, "Well, Rich, now that you've won \$1 million, what are you going to do?" Rich replies, "Why, watch Bette Midler on CBS, of course." Oh Mary!

Since the odious *Big Brother* will be traveling into the fall season, we feel compelled to comment on last week's homophobia fit. Two challenges incorporated sexuality questions. In one, the houseguests were required to do a dance marathon in which two people were dancing at all times. This meant sometimes the guys would have to dance with each other because there are now three women and four men in the house. Curtis seemed most freaked out by this, while Eddie shrugged and didn't seem to care. George and Josh were mildly freaked.

The houseguests also had to attribute quotes to the houseguest who said them, including something Josh said to now-banned

stripper Jordan. In a conversation in which Josh said he looked and acted gay but wasn't (keep telling yourself that, dear), Jordan and Josh discussed the intimacy of kissing. Josh said he would rather "do a guy than kiss one" — the quote given in the challenge.

Beauty queen Jamie thought one of the women said it. When Josh revealed he had, Curtis, Brittany, Eddie and George were un-

Backstage

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old Danny Kaye movie, with songs by Frank Loesser, creates its own postmodern fairy-tale world.

Touring musicals

Ragtime (Sept. 26-Oct. 29) finally makes it to San Francisco via the Orpheum Theatre.

A new love story has been built around those infectious ditties by ABBA in *Mamma Mia* (Nov. 14-Jan. 7), a London hit that will play the Orpheum before the show travels to Broadway.

Copacabana (Jan. 9-Jan. 28) is also supposed to be Broadway bound. The American Musical Theatre of San Jose is sponsoring the Barry Manilow-penned musical based on his song about a showgirl named Lola.

May will bring *Contact* to the Curran. The Tony Award-winning dance musical directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman launches its national tour in San Francisco.

Musical rarities

Dear World (Sept. 6-24) was Jerry Herman and Angela Lansbury's unsuccessful follow-up to *Mame*. The musical adaptation of *The Madwoman of Chaillot* stars Meg Mackay in the 42nd Street Moon production.

Marin Theatre Company opens its season with the seldom-staged *As Thousands Cheer* (Sept. 7-Oct. 1). This topical 1933 revue by Irving Berlin and Moss Hart introduced such standards as "Easter Parade," "Heat Wave," and

able to let it go, taunting and teasing for hours. Brittany told Josh that the viewers would probably just assume he was bi. Then George chose Josh for banishment, citing the comment and noting he didn't want Josh to say anything else that would further damage his character!

These glimpses of *Big Brother* are actually interesting. The fear of being perceived as queer before a

"Supertime"

The Venus Rising Company, a new outfit working out of the Leshner Center in Walnut Creek, gives Sondheim fans a chance to check out *Assassins* (Feb. 22-March 17).

Star power

Sam Shepard may be the straightest playwright in the world, but you can't ignore a cast that includes Nick Nolte, Sean Penn, Woody Harrelson, and Cheech Marin. The Magic Theatre is presenting the world premiere of Shepard's *The Late Henry Moss* (Nov. 7-Dec. 17) at Theatre on the Square.

SF Symphony

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ham in the exquisite Berg Violin Concerto (Nov. 29-Dec. 3) will vie for our attention with pianist Garrick Ohlsson in the Brahms Concerto No. 2 (Dec. 7-9), local and international favorite Jean-Yves Thibaudet with Chopin's No. 2 (Apr. 25-28), and Hélène Grimaud in Ravel's delightful Piano Concerto in G major on a program that includes Benjamin Britten's Suite from *The Prince of the Pagodas*, really irresistible, Javanese gamelan-inspired music (May 16-19).

There is much more to look forward to from MTT as he leads the orchestra for a total of 20 weeks, so pick up a schedule and prepare to pounce. There are no empty seats when MTT makes his way to center stage, and do notice

national audience — or in the case of the other guests, being perceived as queer by association — seemed paramount in both challenges. Though most of the emotional intensity in the *Big Brother* house seems contrived, this was an unscripted scene which points candidly to the way homophobia and queer fear infiltrate our culture.

Survivor fetishist that we are, we feel compelled to note that

It's a meeting of smoky voices as Kathleen Turner plays stage and screen legend Tallulah Bankhead in *Tallulah* (January), Sandra Ryan Heyward's one-woman play launching its national tour at the Curran.

The brand-new San Francisco Musical Theatre Company has lined up a collection of familiar names to populate its debut season at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Nanette Fabray and Morgan Brittany star in *Pippin* (through Sept. 3), Nichelle Nichols heads the cast of *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Dec. 26-31), and David Birney and Avery Schreiber team for *Man of La Mancha* (April 24-29). ▼

that he closes the season with the gigantic Mahler Symphony No. 8, *Symphony of a Thousand* (June 6-10).

SFS Conductor Laureate Herbert Blomstedt makes his annual visit for four subscription weeks in the new season, and he can be counted on to remind us of his sure hand with Brahms and Dvořák, along with his wonderful championing of Carl Nielsen. Try not to miss his Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4 with Andrés Schiff at the keyboard (March 28-30) or the first SFS performances of Rautavaara's Violin Concerto with Elmar Oliveira (Nov. 22-25). If you haven't heard of this composer before, you owe yourself the thrill of discovering his glorious music.

Other guest conductors making highly anticipated appearances during the season include Kent Nagano leading the orchestra



Meg Mackay in *Dear World*

tra in the US premiere of John Adams' *El Niño* (*A Nativity Oratorio*). Soprano Dawn Upshaw will be one of the participants. And wow, that Adams is one busy boy who rarely misses the mark. These concerts are self-recommending (Jan. 11-13). Mark Wiglesworth is leading the orchestra in Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10, and I wouldn't miss the chance of hearing it in person (Oct. 19-21). Donald Runnicles returns with some music of Messiaen, *Les Offrandes oubliées*, late in October, and there will be two SFS conductor debuts, Harry Bicket and Emmanuel Villaume.

All in all, a most promising line-up, and we have barely touched on all the riches in store. Nothing can replace the experience of hearing a great orchestra perform live, and the glow of our Indian Summer is enhanced by the lights at Davies Hall. ▼

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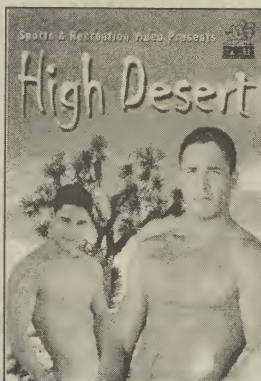
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Where the boys are

by Deborah Peifer

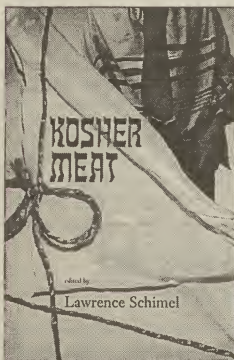
My reading preferences incline toward writers of the female persuasion, which means I tend to be almost entirely unaware of what the boys are up to. I do follow a few male writers, chief among them Felice Picano (*The Book of Lies*). The welcome news that his long-out-of-print short stories were to be released by Alyson (*The New York Years*, \$12.95) suggested that it was long past time to read some male writers and see what I was missing. Plenty, as it turns out.



Let's begin with those extraordinary New York stories. What a pleasure it is to see New York gay life, post-Stonewall and pre-plague, captured with skill, wit, and passion. Picano creates absolutely breathtaking scenes, and peoples them with astonishingly vivid characters. Consider the autobiographical "Shy," Picano's contribution to "the time [I] went to bed with someone famous" genre. "Shy" is a painful tale of a brief encounter with a cinematic demigod, whose real identity is revealed in Picano's very fine Introduction. "Mr. World Buns: A Story Without a Moral" offers a cautionary tale for anyone who thinks that an open relationship is a good idea. "And Baby Makes Three" explores the power of a twice-told tale, while "Expertise" offers a powerful incentive to become exceptionally skilled at... something. *The New York Years* is a gift for all of us who admire Picano's writing, but it is also a reminder of a very specific and wonderful time in gay history when sex was about liberation and pleasure.

Circa 2000: Gay Fiction at the Millennium, edited by Robert Drake and Terry Wolverton (Alyson, \$14.95), is the exceptional companion volume to its phenomenal lesbian sister, published earlier this year. The collection is splendid, but more electrifying to report is that Robert Drake, beaten into a coma by a pair of gay-bashers last year, will read from the collection at Giovanni's Room in October. Given the great fear that Drake would either never wake up, or be so severely brain-damaged that he would not wish to survive, the fact of his recovery is nothing short of miraculous.

He'll be able to choose from a plethora of exciting short fiction in *Circa 2000*. Ethan Alexander's "Beneath the Planet of the Compulsives" is a futuristic look at life with simian-Americans. "Mrs. Lincoln's China" is also a tale of the future, but M. Shayne Bell's forecast for tomorrow is darkly terrifying. It suggests to me, at least, the horrors of life under Junior Bush. Bell uses a display of White House china to reveal a world in which no one is safe. *Circa 2000* is a great introduction to some of the best gay writers around, one that left me longing to read more.



Lawrence Schimel (*Things Invisible To See*) is an editor of grace and style. His newest collection, *Kosher Meat* (Sherman Asher Publishing, \$14.95), explores those places where Jewishness and queerness intersect, transect, and sometimes painfully, vivisect. Michael Lassell's "My People" offers a shudderingly honest look at a May-December pick-up. The narrator mentions the first man he ever loved, who died in 1968. "I wasn't born in 1968," David said. "That is not an endearing remark in any circumstances," I told him. Patrick meets the family for the first time when his lover goes home for his father's funeral to prove that he's "The Good Son" (Brian Stein). The stories in *Kosher Meat* remind us that identity is fluid, especially when it seems most fixed.

If gay male writing is slightly outside by normal experience, gay male erotica is way outside. Fortunately, *Best of the Best Gay Erotica* (edited by Richard Labonté; Cleis, \$14.95) contains stories that are



about lots more than just getting off, although I suspect that you'll prefer to read many of these stories with one hand free. Labonté selected from five annual editions of *Best Gay Erotica* to offer the

cream, if you will, of stories that will leave you hot, bothered, and even thoughtful. Lawrence Schimel's "Clothes Do Make the Man" suggests that getting ready for Wigstock is way

more fun than the event itself. In "First Shave," Jameson Currier creates sensual magic with shaving cream. "The Yellow" is Michael Lassell's erotic rant about Irish homophobia, the Gulf War, and the Empire State Building, among other topics. "Yellow" is a troubling tale of comfort, or it might be a comforting tale of trouble, exquisitely told by Kirk Read. *Best of the Best* is as erotically charged as anything I've ever read, well worth the time and treasure of all genders.

Briefly

Elana Dykewomon, author of the Lammy Award-winning *Beyond the Pale*, discusses the art and craft of writing at the Main Library on September 10 at 1 p.m. Also at the Main, a series of lectures on opera, beginning with Luisa Miller on September 6 at noon.

At A Different Light on September 3 at 7:30 p.m., John Morgan Wilson reads from his newest Benjamin Justice mystery, *The Limits of Justice*.

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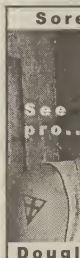
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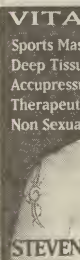
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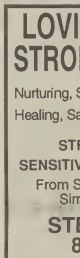


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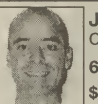
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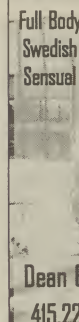
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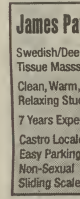
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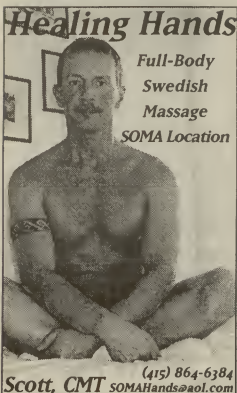
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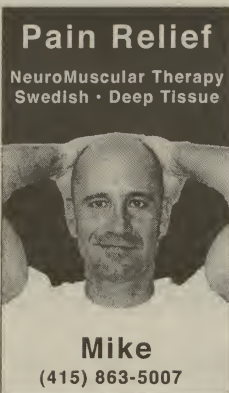
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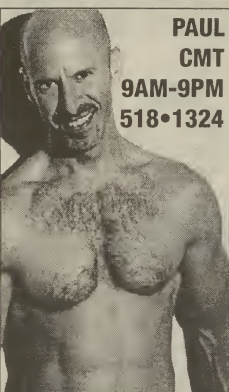

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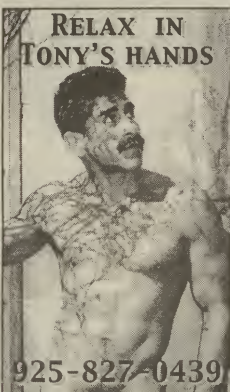
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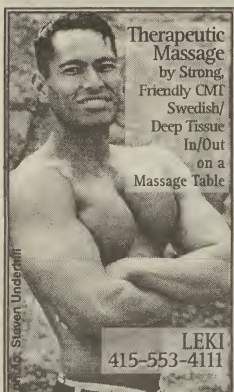
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Downtown CMT. Swedish/Deep Tissue
5'11", 160# Smooth, cute boy.
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Lay back and enjoy erotic, nude
MASSAGE IN MARIN
Smooth, slim guy. Andy 461-4135 E35

JAPANESE
Deep Tissue
Full Body
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BARE BEAR
massage 1 hour, professional, erotic
24 hours, 7 years experience.
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20% Discount to other body builders
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Sensual/Erotic B/BI 5'9" 150 In &
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Young exotic charming. Either of us
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BLOND MASSEUR!**
Full Body erotic massage by Blond
Muscular surfer in the nude!
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Clean EZ park nr. SFO best time
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TOUCH**
Accupressure
Relaxation
Magic Sensualness
Full Body

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WITH NO COMPARISON**
Massage that is tailored for your
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GREAT BODYWORK
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Warm sensual powerful hands. Hot!
Toned, smooth goodlooks. Explore the
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Firm, fullbody erotic massage for
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Castro * Certified * Only \$40
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A playful introduction to techniques
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Sensual, Deep-Tissue Massage
Full, complete release. Older men
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Clients say I go for distance
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Relaxing real massage. Out. \$100
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Great & Smooth Massage * 614-0397
CUTE ASIAN BOY IN/OUT E36

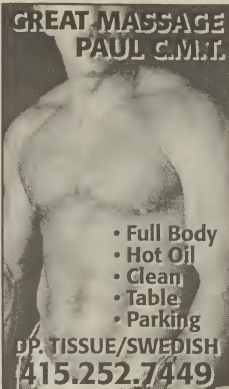
Great Masseuse, CMT, wants to trade
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YOUNG, MUSCULAR**
Jock does a great massage
7 days 11AM-11PM
Same day available - Justin
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\$50

- CLEAN
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HOT NUDE OIL RUB BY 25 YO
6ft 175 31w45ch, smooth and shaved
Great tanline/pecs. Free buthole shave
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Sexy Latino Boy. Erotic Massage
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By good looking dude
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Deep - Intense
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WEEK NIGHT SPECIAL * \$60
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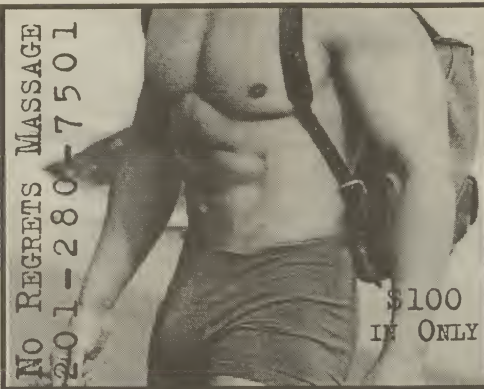
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Italian gives firm erotic touch. Body
trim cock n ball shave available. Tony
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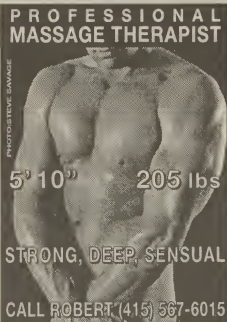
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\$100
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PROFESSIONAL
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5'10" 205 lbs

STRONG, DEEP, SENSUAL

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Blonde Hair Blue Eyes 24
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Intuitive • Dynamix • Firm • Touch
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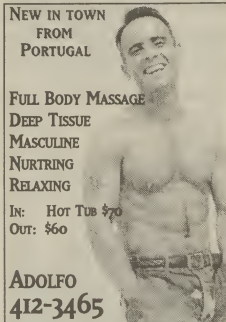
Cute Latin Boy Eddie. Sensual nude
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Discreet Massage * Fantasy!!!
Gino is back! Hot & Oiled Stud Swim
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ASIAN JOCK

MODEL/ESCORTS

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
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\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
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Handsome, Expert Master
Light to Heavy Sensual s/m
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Kicks back for service/oral * 24hrs.
10"X 6" *UNCUT*
Big fat tool-552-2370-pgr. 790-6423

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Live to service Men!
Discreet & Passionate In/Out
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AFFECTIONATE 9X6
Cute 32 6' 170 nice smile.
Friendly passionate intelligent
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BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area
Ted* (415) 459-3488

5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888

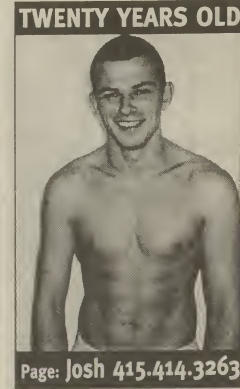
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Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out

XTREME MANPLAY
6' 190# hairy 46chs Top age 33
B&D, CBT, TT, S&M, FF, Sling
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Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160
CHOKO ON THIS!
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
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gentle strength & arousing edge
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outcalls/hottubs/trav Bay Area
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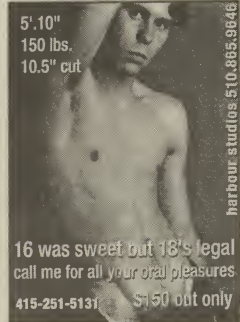
MODEL/ ESCORTS

TWENTY YEARS OLD



Page: Josh 415-414-3263

5'10"
150 lbs.
10.5" cut



16 was sweet but 18's legal
call me for all your oral pleasures
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"Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
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Frat Boy Hunk
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9", 155#, 30" w, 8" 739-7312

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Dark Irish handsome muscular & fun
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versatile, page 415 540-6815

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MEET YOUR MASTER NOW
Sadistic, Real Leather Master
S/M & all scenes. Call Now!
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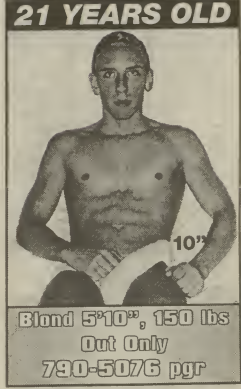
20YO BLONDE
6ft 165 Smooth
Gym built and beautifully hung
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Foot fetish 837-6112

SHAVED, PUMPED AND HORNY
25yo 6ft, 175lbs, 31w 44ch, 7.5 fat/ cut
smooth nuts+hole. Totally shaved,
trim bush, big nipples/pecs, 24/7
Massage avail. Patrick 791-1214

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~HOT LATIN BOY~
Tan, lean, hard and smooth body
with friendly top energy.
Affectionate. Passionate kisser.
Call Rick 415-264-8000 (cell) or
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Blond 5'10", 150 lbs
Out Only
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6'3 Butch Top In/Out
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YOUNG HANDSOME BUFF
SF Jon 415-550-6857 outcalls

HORNY HARD & HUNG
Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35yo
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Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerfull
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8 1/2 uncut 5'10", 170# fit'n hnsn
Most scenes 786 8352

Sexy blond jock with w/shrd abs &
Incredible pecs. 5'9", 165, 8-1/2" c.
Tanned, masculine, & versatile
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By good lking, blond/bl, 6', swimmer.
Friendly, sexy, tender to raunchy
100 in/more out. Ez freeway+Bart
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Feet back and spread 'em!

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The sculpted 6', 185# blond Adonis.
Smooth, defined, satisfaction2theore.
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MODEL/ESCORTS

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6'4" 235 lbs
Hung BIG



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Masculine • Aggressive
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Most Scenes • Strictly Top
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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &
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RICK 431-0959

6'2" very handsome, hung, muscular 27
strictly kick back oral top
\$140 out Kevin 377 4304

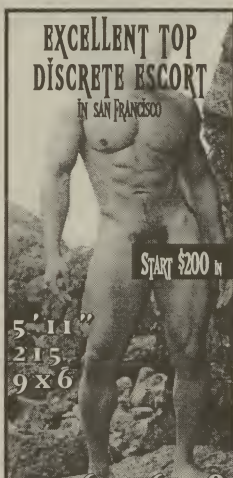
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Very discreet and friendly
clean slim built with boyish
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29 year old midwest boy
5'10", 160, military cut, tight
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Small ff hands for pleasure &
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FROM BIG EASY**

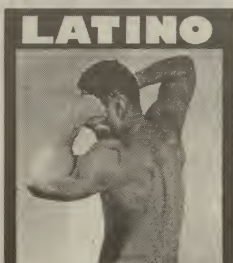


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VERGE

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men/massages,
teaches piano,
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More musc. than pic.
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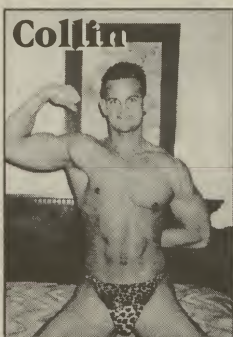
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Nice young boy you're sure to enjoy
21yrs old brwn hr brwn eyes slender,
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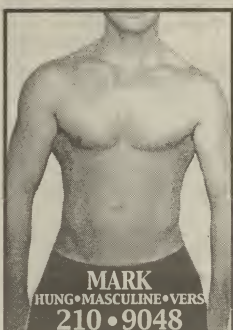
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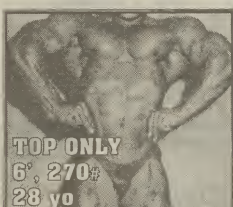


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6', 270#
28 yo



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26yo/5'10", 150# tight, muscular
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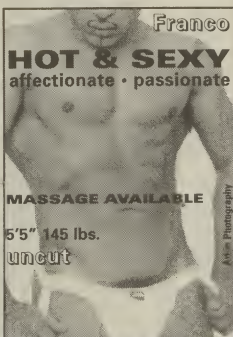
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HOT & SEXY
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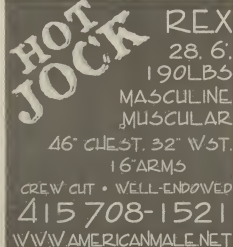
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Friendly, aggressive, horny, hung
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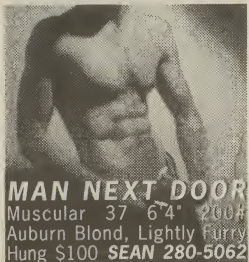
25yo 5'8", 140 smooth vers-bottom
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Naked runner Peninsula & SF 54yo/
Big balls \$50 out 650-347-2468

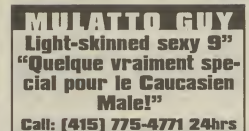
5'10", 160 very fit body, nice tan!
9.5 & VERY THICK!!!
100% REAL NO BS 'OR'
Don't pay! I am creative, fun
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You wont be disappointed!!
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I do live in SF. I do travel!!!

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Muscular 37 6'4" 200#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 SEAN 280-5062



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Light-skinned sexy 9"
"Quelque vraiment special
pour le Caucasic
Male!"
Call: (415) 775-4771 24hrs

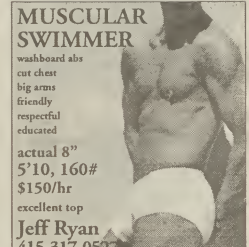


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9" • 32 • 6'3" • 190
VERY ATTRACTIVE
DOMINANT
AWESOME 12.5 FEET
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cut chest
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friendly
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actual 8"
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\$150/hr
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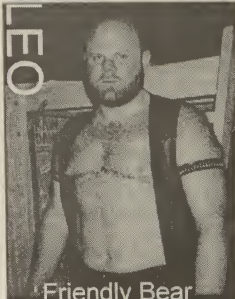
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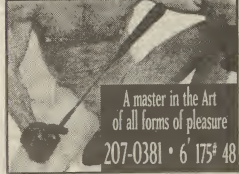
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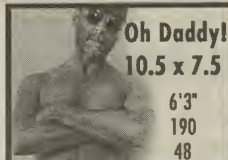
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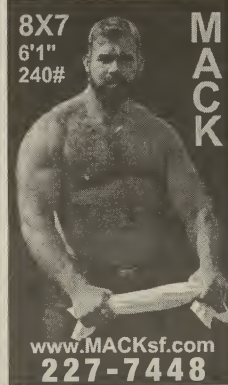
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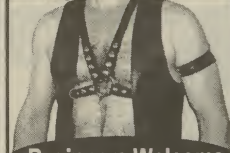
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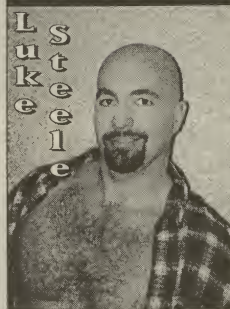


Beginners Welcome

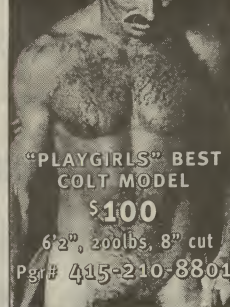
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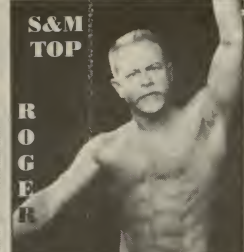
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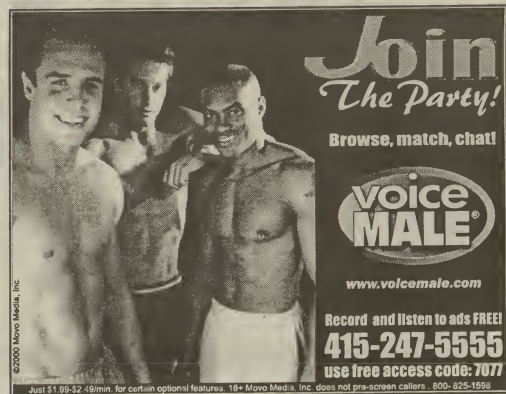


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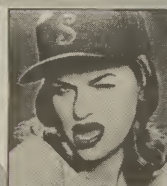


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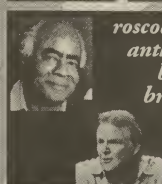
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